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-5 1976

THE TIMES

Pornography: Question of right and wrong, page 14

ncorde wins entry to America for 16-month trial

allowed to land at Washington and New
h trial period, it was announced yesterday.
ents that the Anglo-French supersonic
or harmful. Mr William Coleman, the Secretary of Transportation, said 16 months would be long enough to allow Concorde's effects to be analysed and a final decision taken. The ruling is already being challenged in the courts, however.

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increase in noise which it might cause at the two airports would be minimal.

He said that he had refused to consider Concorde's effects on the commercial prospects of Trans World Airlines and Pan American Airways.

Concorde has won a battle, however, not the war. The Secretary's decision, which is immediately binding upon Dulles airport, will be challenged in the courts, and the New York-New Jersey Port Authority, which controls Kennedy airport, may refuse it permission to land.

Mr Coleman did not issue a ruling on the port authority's right to do so, but he said that a decision against Concorde would be "extremely unfortunate". Whichever way it decides, the losers will go to court and the issue will therefore be decided by the judicial authorities. Environmental groups are already drafting their petitions for injunctions against Mr Coleman's decision.

Mr Coleman attached a number of conditions to his decision in favour of Concorde:

1. No flights may land or take off between 10 pm and 7 am local time.

2. British flights must originate at Heathrow and French flights at Roissy-Charles de Gaulle.

3. Any further flights would require a new Environmental Impact Statement.

4. Concorde may not fly supersonically over the United States.

5. The Federal Aviation Authority may impose "such additional noise abatement procedures as are safe, technologically feasible, economically justified and necessary to minimize the noise impact, including, but not limited to, the thrust cut-back or departure".

He has instructed the FAA to set up monitoring equipment at the two airports to measure noise and pollution attributable to Concorde, and to begin a High Altitude Pollution Programme to produce data to serve as a base for future regulation.

He will also ask the President to instruct the Secretary of State to enter into negotiations with Britain and France on an international ozone monitoring programme.

He said a decision against Concorde might have been thought discriminatory for two reasons.

"First, the United States would be open to the charge that we treated our own aircraft more favourably than those of foreign countries in regulating aircraft noise. Secondly, the British and French might justifiably feel that the United States was discriminating in its attitude towards atmospheric pollution."

On the first point, Mr Coleman observed that noise regulations for subsonic jets were introduced a decade after they had begun to fly commercially, and 80 per cent of aircraft in service today still did not meet the standards.

On the second point, the Secretary observed that other pollutants did much more damage to the ozone layer than Concorde. With the exception of noise, the environmental consequences would not be substantial.

Peter Strafford writes from New York: The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which will have to approve any flights into Kennedy airport, issued a statement saying that it would study Mr Coleman's decision in detail before coming to its own conclusion. It would also discuss it with the New York City authorities, as well as with the Governors of New York and New Jersey.

The port authority said it would "take into consideration all the environmental, economic and social factors involved", as well as Concorde's ability to meet existing airport conditions.

Paris, Feb 4.—Air France, after hearing the news of the American decision, announced here today that it was going "full steam ahead" with plans to make the first Paris-to-New York flight by Concorde on May 1 an overwhelming success.

£742 Concorde trip, page 4
Photograph, text excerpts and reactions, page 8

British ship fired on by Argentine warship

By Robert Fisk

The unarmed British research ship Shackleton, carrying a crew of 30 and with explosives on board, last night reached the safety of the Falkland Islands after being shadowed for six hours by an Argentine destroyer which had fired across its bows when it refused to stop.

As the Shackleton steamed towards Port Stanley with the destroyer, the American-made Almirante Storni, clearly visible three miles to starboard, the British Government had initiated a flurry of diplomatic protests in London and Buenos Aires.

On Mr Callaghan's instructions, Señor Rafael Gowland, the Argentine Chargé d'Affaires in London, was summoned to the Foreign Office to receive an apparently stern protest from Mr Edward Rowlands, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary.

The shooting—during which the Argentines ordered the British vessel to heave to—is by far the most serious incident in the dispute over the ownership of the Falkland Islands. Yet the reasons for the extraordinary drama 78 miles south of Cape Pembroke were last night not entirely clear.

The 1,100-ton Shackleton, a veteran research ship built over 20 years ago and with a maximum speed of only 11½ knots, has been carrying out research duties in the south west Atlantic, investigating continental drift under the auspices of the Natural Environment Research Council. The programme of research had been cleared by the International Council of Scientific Unions which comes under the Unesco umbrella.

But at around 12.30 GMT yesterday the Almirante Storni approached. According to the Foreign Office, the Argentine warship fired "several" shots across Shackleton's bows and threatened to fire into the hull if it did not stop. At this point, Captain W. Johnston, of the Shackleton, told the Argentines that he was carrying explosives—for geoseismic research—and that his ship might explode if hit.

The Argentines themselves admitted last night that the Almirante Storni had fired a warning shot at the Shackleton but a government spokesman in Buenos Aires said this had been done because the British vessel had been in Argentine territorial waters. The Foreign Office in London, which made a statement about the incident [illegible]

In any event, Captain Johnston, faced with the possibility of having his ship explode beneath him as the Almirante Storni covered the Shackleton with its 4 inch guns, put through a telephone call to Mr Neville French, the Falkland Islands Governor. Mr French ordered him to avoid allowing

Continued on page 8, col 1

Liberal MPs reaffirm support for Mr Thorpe as their party leader

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Mr Thorpe, Leader of the Liberal Party, after a question-and-answer session which lasted an hour and three quarters, came from a private meeting of Liberal MPs and peers last night looking pale and tense but with the assurance that his colleagues had "reaffirmed their support for his continued leadership".

Those were the important words in a brief statement issued by Mr Cyril Smith, the party's chief whip, at the end of the meeting.

He said that throughout the meeting Mr Thorpe had reasserted that there was no truth in the allegations made by Mr Norman Scott, aged 35, a male model, that in the past he had had a "sexual relationship" with the Liberal leader.

The 13 Liberal MPs, six Liberal peers (Lords Byers, Amulree, Wade, Mackie of Benshie, Gladwyn and Wigoder), Mrs Margaret Wingfield, the party president, Mr Kenneth Vaus, the party chairman, "saw no reason for reaching a different conclusion from that reached by their three colleagues who investigated the same allegation in 1971, which was then also inquired into by the Home Office and Scotland Yard".

That was a reference to the investigation carried out in 1971 at Mr Thorpe's request into Mr Scott's allegations by Mr Emlyn Hooson, QC, MP, Lord Byers, leader of the Liberal peers, and Mr David Steel, MP for Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, then Liberal Chief Whip. They found no truth in the accusations.

Mr Smith said the meeting had before it all the letters that Mr Peter Bessell, Liberal MP for Bodmin from 1969 to 1970, had written to Mr Scott. That was a reference to Mr Bessell's admission that when he was an MP he regularly made payments to Mr Scott as a matter of charity.

A statement made by Mr Bessell about those payments was with Mr Thorpe's solicitors and the police, Mr Smith said. "I can assure you", he told journalists after the meeting, "that the press have no letters that we have not got. We have had access to press files today by courtesy of an eminent newspaper."

So far as he and the party were concerned "all the loose ends had been tied up", and the matter was closed.

It was agreed that references in MPs' speeches to Mr Thorpe being "persecuted" in the press, should not be included in the official statement.

His only complaint against the press was an inference read into what he said yesterday "which I emphasized should not be read into it". He continued:

"I said that if ever I took the view, or the Parliamentary Liberal Party took the view, that Mr Thorpe should resign, then we need only ask him. It is wrong to say that he offered to resign. He simply restated what he has said to me on many occasions: 'If you feel that I should resign the leadership, I hope you will tell me.'"

The discussion of recent events involving Mr Scott and his allegations overshadowed the real purpose of the meeting, which was to consider the scheme for the annual election of the Liberal leader prepared by Mr Michael Steed. It is due

Continued on page 2, col 2

BR requests fifth rise in fares in two years

By Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor

The British Railways Board has formally applied to the Price Commission for its fifth general increase in fares in less than two years to avert a £600m deficit in the coming financial year. Details of the scale of the latest increases are being withheld, but most are thought to be between 10 and 17½ per cent.

Details of the actual rises will not be published until the Price Commission has cleared the rises and the Government has considered the likely impact on its counter-inflation policy.

Strong protests are already being made behind the scenes by the National Union of Railwaymen, which fears that new fare increases will damage certain services and hinder its campaign against threatened cuts in British Rail's general investment programme.

Yesterday Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, who has had railway policy under close review amid rumours of savage investment cuts, said investment in British Rail would be held in the coming year to £238m but denied that that figure would have the results feared by the unions.

At the same time, Mr Gilbert, Minister for Transport, asked in the Commons about commuter fares, said: "There are difficult questions of balancing the equities involved in doing anything to restore the finances of British Rail.

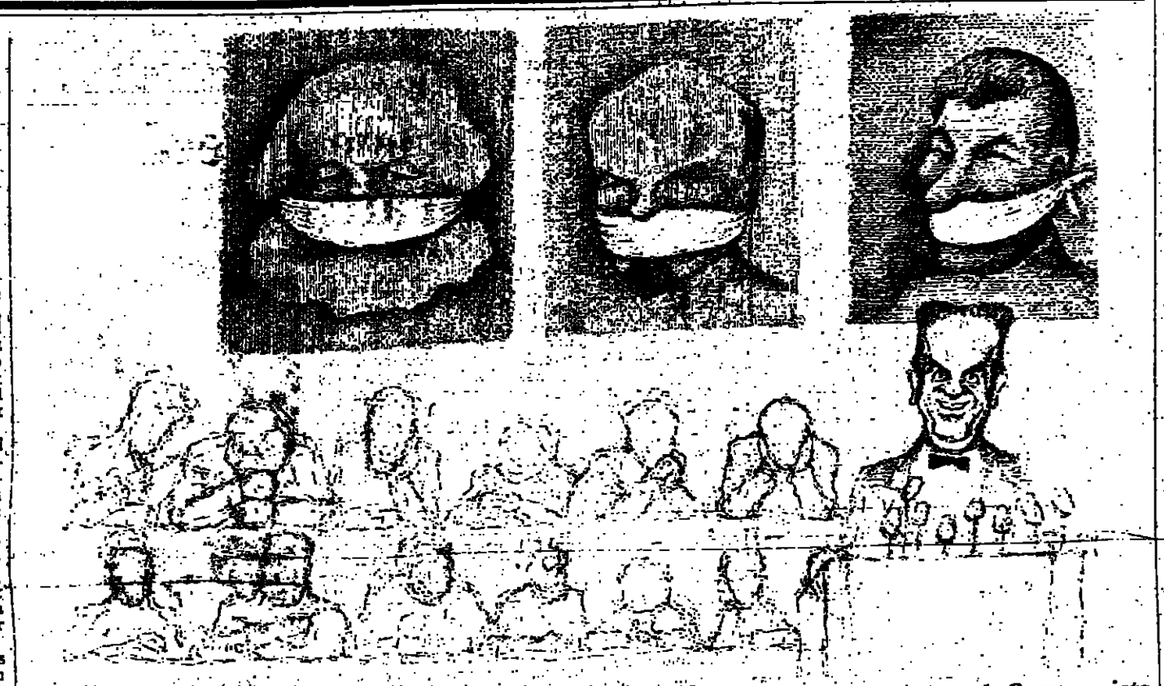
"It is beyond question, in certain parts of the country, that a major proportion of the subsidy to keep fares down is going to the better-off section of the community."

The Government is pursuing discussions now taking place with unions and other interested parties. A White Paper may be issued.

Sir Richard Marsh, chairman of British Rail, has stated: "The alternative to price increases is an increasing call on public funds to support the railway."

It is expected that British Rail, in its financial year ending next month, will report losses of between £400m and £500m, including the various support grants; and, without a new round of fare rises, the 1976-77 estimate might be about £600m.

British Rail's management feels it has done well, in very difficult inflationary conditions, to keep to its loss estimates for the present financial year.



"L'Express" artist gags Marx, Lenin and Stalin as M Marchais confirms to French Communists that "dictatorship of the proletariat" is no longer the target. Report, page 7.

Steward hurt as protesters halt planning inquiry

The inquiry into the Aire Valley trunk road scheme was abandoned yesterday when demonstrators broke into the council chamber at the town hall, Shipley, west Yorkshire. They were protesting at the inspector's decision to exclude the public from the inquiry after earlier interruptions. A town hall steward was injured during the scuffle. It is planned to resume the hearing today. Last night Mr Silkin, Minister for Planning and Local Government, said democracy would be best served by allowing the inspector to continue without hindrance

Page 4

'Demolish Berlin Wall'

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Roy Mason, the Defence Secretary, calls on the Soviet block to pull down the Berlin Wall as proof of its belief in détente. He also suggests that the block should reduce its tank armies in central Europe and relax policies on minorities

Page 8

Protest over £5 suits

Men's suits from East Germany, marketed through a Dutch company, are being offered to British retailers at £4.80 each. British companies have complained to the Government about the low-priced imports. It is the Government's duty to to ensure this kind of trading is prohibited, they say

Page 19

Winter Olympics open

The 12th Winter Olympic Games were opened by Dr Rudolf Kirschläger, president of the Austrian Federal Republic, in a carnival atmosphere at Innsbruck yesterday. For the first time two flames were lit, one in the original 1964 bowl

Page 13

Hypothermia: The Government has rejected a request that fuel boards should be directed not to disconnect supplies to old and severely disabled people 2

Honours even: The Scottish National Party has been delighted by its sweeping win of a seat on Strathclyde Regional Council, but it did not do well in a by-election in the Grampian Region 2

Asians welcome: Leading Asians yesterday welcomed changes in the Conservative Party's attitudes towards immigrant communities which have led to the adoption of Mr Narindar Saroop as prospective parliamentary candidate for Greenwich 4

Milk guide: Information on baby milks is planned after a disclosure that National Dried Milk and other brands might be harmful to infants under six months 4

Beirut: Mr Karami promises relentless war on looters in Lebanon 8

Chrysler resumption: Workers at Linwood are expected to return today after settlement of their strike 19

Earlier warning of redundancies

To help workers threatened with redundancy, the Government has yielded to TUC pressure to bring forward by a month the early warning provisions of the Employment Protection Act. From March 8, employers will have to consult unions before carrying out plans involving dismissals. If more than 100 workers are involved consultation must begin at least 90 days ahead. For more than 10 workers the period is 60 days

Page 2

Angolans celebrate

Angolans in Luanda yesterday celebrated the fifteenth anniversary of the unsuccessful attack on the Sao Paulo prison to free political prisoners that marked the beginning of the armed struggle to end Portuguese rule. Soviet-made tanks led the parade

Page 7

No soliciting

A prostitute who sat revealingly clothed in a window in Southampton's red light district was cleared by Southampton magistrates of soliciting. The bench found that soliciting had not taken place because the woman had not attempted to communicate with, or beckon, prospective clients

Page 4

Earthquake kills 1,000 in Guatemala City

Guatemala City, Feb 4.—More than 1,000 people were killed in a series of earthquakes that razed a third of this city of one million early today. The fire service said it was not yet possible to estimate how many people were missing. Hospitals could not handle the number of injured, and emergency tents were set up.

The city was hit by about 20 earthquakes, measuring 7.2 on the Richter scale. Among the buildings still on fire at the end of the day were Guatemala University's pharmaceutical school and an international food institute.

The first tremor came at 3 am (0900 GMT) and lasted for 31 seconds. It was followed by a series of others at regular intervals for seven hours. Electricity failed and communications with the outside world were disturbed.

General Romeo Lucas, the Defence Minister, took the chair at a meeting of the national emergency committee this morning to coordinate rescue work.

The population, fearful of more tremors, took to the streets, which were blocked by fallen buildings, and stayed there all day. Reports said the earthquakes also caused serious damage around the capital, but no details were available.

The commercial station Radio Fabulosa quoted rescue workers as saying they had recovered 250 bodies and were looking for more in destroyed and damaged buildings, including two hotels.

The radio said the figure of 5,000 given for the number of injured was an up-to-date, official toll. It added that damage was severe in six of the city's 18 postal zones. These included densely populated residential areas. Some international communications were functioning but switchboards were jammed.

Reports of damage to buildings came from the northern region of Honduras, but officials there reported no casualties so far. Radio Fabulosa said the Guatemalan Army was in touch with military authorities in neighbouring republics and emergency aid was expected.

One eye witness said the city's poorer sections, with their slums and shanties, were the worst hit.

In Bogotá, Colombia, Señorita Estela Cheesman, the Guatemalan Ambassador, told correspondents that one zone of Guatemala City was completely destroyed. More than 600 houses had collapsed and more than 300 bodies were buried in the rubble.

Six gunmen and girl die in Djibouti kidnap rescue

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 4

The 30 children of French servicemen, kidnapped yesterday in Djibouti by four terrorists, were recovered today in a brief but bloody operation by French troops at the frontier post of Loyoda, some eight miles south of the town. One girl was killed, and five other children injured, two of them seriously.

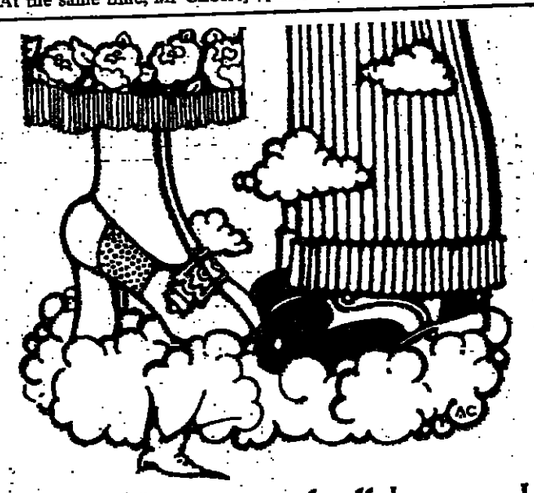
The four terrorists were all killed, together with two others who had joined them from across the frontier in Somalia. A lieutenant of the Foreign Legion, a social worker who stayed with the children all night, and the driver of the bus, were also wounded.

The kidnappers, members of the National Liberation Front of the Somali Coast (FLCS), had demanded immediate and unconditional independence for the Territory of the Afars and the Issas, of which Djibouti is the capital. The FLCS is opposed to independence negotiations which France has been conducting with rival political groups.

The French High Commissioner in Djibouti, M Christian Dablanc, said today that two sections of the Foreign Legion and a troop of armoured cars had taken up covering positions along the frontier. Marksmen of the gendarmerie, some of them flown in from France, then opened fire on five of the terrorists, who were all shot. But a sixth gunman, who lay hidden in the bus, was able to open fire on the children before he was killed in turn.

Afterwards a large number of Somalis opened fire on the bus from across the frontier.

New York, Feb 4.—France today called for an urgent Security Council meeting to discuss Somalia's role in the kidnapping.—Reuter.



If you feel you're 300ft. off the ground you're either in love.
Or in the Hilton Roof Restaurant.
Or both.

Three hundred feet above Park Lane, the air's rarer, the food's nicer, and the music has an unearthly beat (with two bands fiddling while Romeo burns).

All at the Hilton Roof. And, if you should ever tire of the view on the other side of the table, there's 37 miles of flickering London around you to catch your eye.

Whatever your love is—good food or something more eternal—celebrate it at the Hilton Roof.

If tonight's the night, ring 01 493 8000 and ask for a table on the roof.



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Letters: on pornography and the law from Dr Brian Richards and others; on European elections, from Lord Duncan-Sandys; on nuclear deal with Japan from Dr Sigvard Eklund

Leading articles: Iceland's intransigence; bending the rules for Chrysler; Is *The Times* fair to the Arab lobby?

Books, pages 10 and 11
Michael Wolff reviews two studies of the Dakar operation of 1940; the Archbishop of Canterbury on Joseph McCulloch's memoirs; Louis Heren on new theories about the death of John F. Kennedy; Philip Howard on *Keywords* by Raymond Williams

Arts, page 9
David Robinson on the revival of a famous Mayakovsky exhibition; Paul Moor on the early retirement of Friedrich-Gulda; Irving Wardle on *The Lady or the Tiger* (Fortune Theatre).

Features, pages 14 and 17
Professor Nicos Derletoglu on the implications of Greece's swing to the left; Shona Crawford Poole goes shopping.

Obituary, page 16
Professor the Hon Alastair Buchan, Professor Leonard C. Martin, Evert Taube, Mr Nathaniel Gubbins

Sport, pages 11 to 13
Cricket: Australia set to win final Test. Racing: Michael Phillips reports on debate in House of Lords on state of industry. Football: Bob Latchford out for rest of season. Boxing: John Stracey to defend world title at Wembley in March

Business News, pages 18 to 23
Stock markets: The CBI survey gave a lift to shares and the FT Index rose 4.9 to 414.4.
Business feature: Roger Vielvoye describes the forces that keep the West's largest energy users together in the International Energy Agency; Peter Jay Thursday Column
Business Diary: How the voluntary hotel registration scheme appears to be floundering.

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HOME NEWS

Scottish nationalists cock-a-hoop at Strathclyde victory

From Ronald Faux
Glasgow

The Scottish National Party saw itself yesterday as having inflicted a crucial defeat on Labour in west central Scotland by its remarkable victory in the Strathclyde regional by-election on Tuesday. That result was considered to be much more important than the party's relatively poor showing yesterday in a Grampian Region by-election. There the Conservatives held the seat with an increased majority.

In Strathclyde, on a poll increased by almost three tenths and in the face of powerful campaigning by the Labour Party, Mr George Leslie, aged 39, held the Calderwood St Leonard's division for the nationalists with a majority increased by almost fivefold, from 477 in 1974 to 2,708. The seat is in East Kilbride, a successful new-town area.

The increase in the majority was bigger than even optimistic SNP supporters had predicted.

Although no fewer than three junior ministers and four under-secretaries of state turned out to support the Labour candidate, the result demonstrated the established trend by which voters, when they move to one of the new-town areas from the more deprived parts of west central Scotland, also change their politics.

The result (by party) was: Nationalists, 5,978; Labour, 3,270; Conservative, 1,466; Communists, 217.

In the Grampian by-election, for the Speyside and Glenlivet division, the result, on a 49.3 per cent poll, was: Conservatives, 1,804; Nationalists, 1,049.

The Conservative majority increased from 467 in 1974 to 755.

For the Labour Party, the Strathclyde result was a demoralizing blow. Party workers said an excellent effort had been made and the party had shown that it could coordinate a strong campaign. They did not think the result was a judgment from a traditionally Conservative area on the Government's White Paper on devolution. It was merely a sign of the Government's mid-term unpopularity, a reflection of the depressed economy, and a chance for people to protest about the state of Britain.

But the Nationalists, who, if they are eventually to win a mandate for independence (which, according to the polls, most people in Scotland now do not want), must win seats in the Labour heartland around Glasgow, saw matters differently.

Mrs Margo MacDonald, the party's senior vice-chairman, said the result reflected voters' lack of faith that Labour could do anything to alter the state of the economy or industrial prospects.

Devolution campaign "still-born": Mr James Sillars, MP for Ayrshire, South, and a member of the breakaway Scottish Labour Party, said the Strathclyde result had "blown sky-high" the plans laid by the Labour Party to turn the Scottish conference at Troon next month into a morale-boosting rally in favour of the Government's devolution White Paper (our Ayr Correspondent writes).

"Labour's current devolution campaign is still-born and the White Paper a dead duck", he said at Cumnock, Strathclyde.

Government yields to TUC on job warnings

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The Government yesterday yielded to TUC pressure to bring forward early warning procedures designed to help workers threatened with redundancy. From March 8, employers must consult unions before implementing plans to dismiss workers, Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, announced in a Commons written reply.

The handling of redundancy provisions in the Employment Protection Act is being introduced a month early after an appeal by the TUC last week for urgent action to protect workers with jobs at risk.

If more than 100 workers are involved, consultation must begin at least 90 days in advance. For more than 10 workers the notice period must be 60 days. During that time the unions may ask for the employers to apply for the £10-a-week temporary employment subsidy, available in hard-hit areas.

The new legislation also obliges employers to give the same information to the Department of Employment, and to give the unions reasons for the proposed redundancies, or to specify how many workers may be affected and explain how they are to be chosen.

The aim is to enable unions and the Department of Employment to consider "any necessary steps to avoid or minimize redundancies" and to enable government manpower services to seek ways of redeploying or retraining the workers involved.

New measures: The Government's new measures to curb rising unemployment will be placed before Parliament next week, Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the National Economic Development Council yesterday (our Business News Staff writes).

The package is expected to be in three parts: measures to save jobs, such as an extension of the temporary employment subsidy; stimulation to bring forward investment; and proposals to encourage the building for stock of key capital equipment, such as machine tools.

Ministry rejects appeal for directive on disconnexions

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Pressure for an end to disconnexions of fuel supplies to old people mounted yesterday. Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent, South, urged unions not to disconnect customers after the Department of Energy had rejected his plea for a directive to fuel boards, and the General and Municipal Workers' Union announced that it would raise the issue at a meeting with the Electricity Council today.

Mr Ashley asked for an end to disconnexions at the homes of old or severely disabled consumers in a Commons question last month. He urged that, before supplies were cut off, welfare services should thoroughly investigate the circumstances in each case.

But Lord Lovell-Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of Energy, rejected the suggestion in a letter yesterday. He said a direction would not be helpful or appropriate and that procedures were already in force. The department would continue contacts with the fuel industries, other departments and voluntary agencies to see what further improvements could be made.

Mr Ashley said last night: "The procedures are clearly not working, because disconnexions are taking place. If my suggestion had been accepted three weeks ago, when I first made it, a lot of suffering could have been avoided. Now that the Government has rejected it the only hope is that the trade unions will press for it."

The deaths from hypothermia of old people this week were described as a scandal by Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, when she answered questions yesterday on *You and Yours*, the BBC radio programme. "No civilized society will tolerate it in any circumstances, and it ought not to happen", she said.

Her department had done everything in its power to help. Pensions and heating additions had both risen faster than fuel prices, but extra vigilance was needed; that was the job of the "good neighbour".

More deaths: Mrs Janet McDonald, aged 90, of Preston, Lancashire, was found in a collapsed condition at home and died the next day from hypothermia, an inquest was told.

Mr Howard McCann, the coroner, recorded verdicts of misadventure on Mrs McDonald and on another hypothermia victim, Mr Thomas Chamberlain, aged 85, also of Preston.

Dr Anthony Ollerenshaw, the pathologist who conducted post-mortem examinations in both cases, said: "The older one gets the more difficult it becomes to maintain body temperature. Old people must have some form of body-heating. It is not enough just to put thick clothing on. Food is essential, but perhaps not as important as some source of heating outside the body."

Mrs Alice James, aged 90, was found dead in her home at Reading, Berkshire, yesterday. The police believe she died of hypothermia. An inquest will be held. Another elderly woman, Mrs Bernadette Tierney, of South Stoke, Oxfordshire, was taken to Battle Hospital, Reading, suffering from hypothermia.

Task force formed: Derbyshire County Council is to unemployed people task force to advise how to keep warm scheme has been ap the Manpower C which will pay the f will last for 23 week cruits will visit old pairs.

The Development tion at Peterborough portable heaters to m hundred tenants wh have been without he of a breakdown in th district heating syst serves more than 3,0

The cold weather cl schools in Hampsh closed because pupil able to travel, a thir only one member of arrived for lessons, a because they were central heating.

SDLP move to woo 'loyalists' fails

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

The continuing struggle to win over the middle ground of Protestant opinion in Northern Ireland took an unprecedented turn yesterday with the publication of an open letter to "loyalists" by the mainly Roman Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party.

The letter, published as a full-page advertisement in the Belfast *News Letter*, the staunchly Protestant daily newspaper, contained assurances on law and order, and the future status of Northern Ireland.

But by last night, it had been criticized by most influential loyalist politicians, including Mr John Taylor, the Official Unionist, who some commentators had seen as a possible waverer on the idea of a voluntary coalition. He said: "The new Ireland desired by the SDLP is a united Ireland and the only difference between the SDLP and the IRA is on tactics. . . ."

The idea of taking the £700 advertisement is believed to have arisen after meetings between SDLP leaders and Mr William Craig, the Vanguard Party leader, who advocates a voluntary coalition. The party praised the move.

The letter said: "No elected representative in Northern Ireland has at the moment any responsibility for law and order. Until that responsibility is in the hands of elected representatives of all sections here, the basis for really effective action on law and order will be missing."

On the status of Northern Ireland, it said: "The SDLP's long-term aspiration is well known. We seek a new and agreed Ireland. It is dishonest of some loyalist leaders to depict the SDLP as working for the destruction of Northern Ireland."

Plea by brother: The Provisional IRA's attitude to the hunger strike by Frank Stagg in Wakefield prison was criticized in the Irish republic yesterday by Mr Emmet Stagg, his younger brother. He urged the Provisional IRA to ask him immediately to end his 54-day fast and to withdraw its threat of violent retaliation against the British in the event of his brother's death.

The statement was the latest indication of a widening split in the Stagg family over the hunger strike which has become the subject of intensive republican propaganda in Northern Ireland and the republic.

Mr Stagg, claiming to speak for most of the family, accused the Provisional IRA of using his brother as a pawn. "If Frank dies then the responsibility rests squarely with the Provisional leadership and no one else."

Repeated threats of revenge attacks by leaders of Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Provisional IRA, have been condemned by Mr Stagg's married sister, Mrs Veronica Phillips, who lives in Britain, but another brother has been travelling throughout Ireland and abroad campaigning in favour of Mr Stagg's demand to be transferred from Wakefield to a jail in Northern Ireland.

Security chiefs in Northern Ireland are convinced that Mr Stagg's death will signal a rapid increase in Provisional IRA violence in Belfast and on the British mainland.

Diary, page 14

Talks at No 10 on Ulster securi

By Our Political Staff

The second in the regular series of meetings between the Government and Opposition leaders about security in Northern Ireland was held at 10 Downing Street yesterday. No details of the matters discussed were disclosed.

Mr Wilson, was accompanied by senior ministers and security chiefs, and Mrs Thatcher, the Conservative leader, by three of the party's senior spokesmen. Mr Thorpe, the Liberal leader; Mr James Molyneaux, the United Ulster Unionist Coalition leader at Westminster; and Mr Gerard Fitt, the Social Democratic and Labour Party MP, also attended.

Mr Molyneaux indicated before the meeting that he would press for maintenance of the present levels of army commitment. While the Provisional IRA might have drawn in its horns a bit in south Armagh, he was concerned lest there should be a move to another front.

IRA men segregated: At least three IRA prisoners in England have been held in special maximum security segregation units for their own protection for several months, it was reliably confirmed yesterday (David Leigh writes). One is a man aged 18.

Although the official view is that there is no serious threat to Irish prisoners, Noel Jenkinson, serving life with a 30-year minimum recommendation, has been held in the segregation block at Parkhurst prison, Isle of Wight, since November 7, to protect him from other prisoners. He was convicted in 1972 of the bombing of Aldershot barracks.

Paul Hill, who is serving life imprisonment with a recommendation that he should be held until age or infirmity allow his release, has been segregated at Bristol prison since last October. He was convicted of taking part in the Guildford bombings. Solitary confinement as such is no longer used in English prisons; some restricted association is allowed in the spe security prisons with tion units to which men are eventually tra

A third prisoner, McLoughlinn, was 17 victed last April of to a north London a vice unit that plann ings. He was origin to Aylesbury prison o year sentence, but has held in segregation a wood Scrubbs security prison for months, according to soners' welfare orga He is classed as Catego security, the most d group of prisoners.

Miss Jaqueline Kay tary of the Prisoners' A mittee in London, p yesterday at the separ finement of Irish priso

The committee is ca ing for the release of Stagg, the IRA hunge now dangerously ill in field prison, from w describes as solitary ment. He is segregated he refuses to do prison

Counties fight devolution

The Association of County Councils yesterday declared determined opposition to the proposals for devolution in Wales and backed a call from the Welsh counties for a referendum to decide the matter.

Lord Porchester (Hampshire CC) succeeded in adding a clause to the resolution to give it "additional punch". It opposed "unnecessary introduction of an additional level of government with its inevitable complications and delay in administrative processes, increased costs, and interference with the recently reorganized local government".

Sir Meredith Whittaker, chairman of the association, said devolution, to be acceptable, must mean handing down powers from above to bodies closer to the people.

"We will fight to the end a devolution taking powers away from locally elected councils and putting them somewhere higher up", he said.

Scottish MPs' position being studied

By Our Political Staff

While government business managers are hanging on to their majority despite the decision affecting two Scottish Labour MPs, it was learnt last [illegible] will review the position at a meeting on Monday.

The Government is in danger of losing its majority on Commons committees because party officials in Scotland have stated that Mr James Sillars (Ayrshire, South) and Mr John Robertson (Paisley), who have joined the recently formed Scottish Labour Party, cannot hold dual membership.

Mark Carlisle, chief whip, maintained last night that the two MPs were still in receipt of the Government whip and consequently nothing had occurred to affect the majority on committees until the Labour Party's national executive rules on whether they should be expelled.

The organization committee will consequently be confronted with two alternatives. It can go to the national executive or pass the issue to the parent body. In either case it would appear that delaying tactics are being used because of the threat to the Government's majority.

Bath traffic plan backed

From Our Correspondent
Bath

Proposals for overcoming Bath's traffic difficulties, including closing Pulteney Bridge to all but buses and emergency services, met with the approval of a steering committee sponsored by the Government yesterday. The group, which is considering traffic in conjunction with the needs of conservation, wants a detailed report, with estimates of costs, ready for its next meeting on March 10.

If the plan seems practicable the committee will recommend that it should be put into effect in September. It would ban lorries from using Upper Bristol Road, Queen Square and George Street, which is part of the A4 London Road; remove from the city centre two hundred on-street car parking places; make a new traffic layout at the main junction at Churchill Bridge; and introduce new arrangements for traffic at Cleveland Bridge, on the outskirts of the city centre.

The volume of traffic through the city centre would be reduced, and congestion eased, it is thought.

The committee, which is headed by Mr Wilfred Burns, Chief Planner at the Department of the Environment, agrees with Avon County Council that a controversial tunnel and east-west relief road scheme, first proposed 12 years ago, should be dropped on ground of cost.

New standards fixed for coach safety

By a Staff Reporter

New measures to improve the safety of coaches were announced in the Commons yesterday by Mr Gilbert, Minister for Transport.

Coach roofs will be required to withstand a load equivalent to the total weight of the vehicle up to a maximum of 10 tons. The compulsory installation of escape hatches was under consideration, he said.

Mr Gilbert emphasized that coach transport remained the safest form of road travel. But the accident at Dibble's Bridge, West Yorkshire, in which 32 people died last summer as a result of brake failure, had led to understandable public concern.

The Department of the Environment was reviewing minimum brake performance standards and considering the possibility of strengthening existing procedures dealing with the testing of vehicles and the licensing of their operators.

Man killed 'when berserk'

Michael Boyd, aged 24, a labourer, of Brander Road, Leeds, said to have killed a man of 71 "when he had gone berserk", was sentenced at Leeds Crown Court yesterday to life imprisonment with a recommendation by Mr Justice Jupp that he should serve a minimum of 15 years.

Christopher Digney, aged 18, a labourer, of Cragg Avenue, Horsforth, Leeds, was jailed for seven years after pleading guilty to manslaughter and robbery. His plea of not guilty to murder was accepted by the Crown.

Heritage group set up

Lady Birk, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, has set up a heritage education group to continue the efforts in conservation education that were made in European Architectural Heritage Year, it was announced yesterday.

Estate agent freed on bail after writ

By Diana Geddes

Mr Christopher Smith, one of the estate agents involved in the £7m Bewbush land deal, was released from custody at Horsham police station, Sussex, yesterday on police bail. He had been held there since his arrest on Monday morning for questioning in connexion with land deals in 1972 and 1973.

His release followed the granting of a writ of habeas corpus in the High Court. Sussex police issued a statement shortly after the court hearing saying that Mr Smith would have been released on [illegible] in any case.

He was freed on his own recognizance of £250 and told to return to Horsham police station on March 17.

Granting the writ yesterday, Lord Widgery, the Lord Chief Justice, who was presiding in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, said that Mr Smith should be produced in court the following morning if he was not released earlier.

The court would "take a certain view", however, if the police took advantage of the few remaining hours to continue questioning Mr Smith.

The court directed that copies of the writ should be served on the Chief Constable of Sussex and on Det Supt Laurence Finley, who has been leading an inquiry over the past year into land deals in the Crawley and Horsham area. A file is to be submitted shortly to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

The emergency application for the writ was made on Mr Smith's behalf by Mr Donald Farquharson, QC. He told the court that his client had been arrested on Monday morning on suspicion of being concerned in an indictable offence.

Mr Smith was being subjected to questioning which had been going on since 5 pm on Monday, he said. But "from the outset it was indicated to the police that Mr Smith would not answer any questions after advice given to him by solicitors".

Mr Smith had not been charged or brought before magistrates and was being unlawfully detained. The period allowed the police to question a person detained before deciding to charge was now past. He added: "If there was a case against this man he should have been charged long before now."

Police bail is not usual but may be granted by a senior officer in cases where someone has been arrested but not charged and where the officer believes that the inquiry into the case cannot be completed forthwith.



Mr Smith after leaving Horsham police station

Civil service pay and pension inqui

By Our Political Editor

Pay and pensions in the Service are to be considered the general subcommit the Expenditure Comm the House of Commons under the chairmanship Michael English, Labour Nottingham, West, has deeper under the skin of hall than most Commons gatory committees. The Council system will come close scrutiny.

In a statement last nig English said that the inquiry would primari sider the efficiency an tiveness of the Civil Ser that end it would performance of function outside the service, an comparative costs in re the management servi expenditure control of Service Department a Treasury. Both the hoi foreign services will be although the Armed Fo security are to be exclu

The broad brief fi inquiry, as determined committee yesterday, is vestigate developments non-industrial Civil since the Fulton repor lished in June, 1968. English and his col mean to explore with Ci vice witnesses who com them the general ques openness of government whether there has been provement since Ful ported.

Mr English said all c vice trade unions, like side public, would be to give evidence.

The subcommittee is ing specialist advisers within and ourside th Service to help them investigation.

Conservative candidate 'was threatened with a writ'

Mr Tim Keigwin, a former Conservative parliamentary candidate, said yesterday that Mr Jeremy Thorpe's solicitor had threatened him with a writ if any mention was made of Mr Norman Scott during the general election campaign of February, 1974.

Speaking at his home at West Anstey, South Molton, Devon, Mr Keigwin said that Mr Michael Barnes, acting for Mr Thorpe, visited him at his Devon North, constituency headquarters on the opening day of the election campaign. "He said to me: 'I am under orders to issue a writ if you make any mention of Norman Scott during the next three weeks.'

"I said to him that of course I would not, because for one reason I have given my word to my association officers not to, and secondly that it would be very foolish because no one would want to believe it and it would almost certainly rebound."

Mr Keigwin also spoke of a telephone call he had received from Mr Scott and a later meeting he had with him in the presence of a solicitor.

"I had barely heard of the man and he rang me up out of the blue", Mr Keigwin said. He was told on the telephone that Mr Scott's life was in considerable danger and that Mr Scott wanted to see him urgently.

"Mr Scott told me: 'It is about Mr Thorpe.' I interrupted him and said: 'You realize that anything on a personal basis I cannot possibly use.'

"Mr Scott said that this was not the point and that he wanted to discuss things in order that I should know his story." He wanted Mr Keigwin to take a manuscript from him and keep it in a safe place.

Mr Keigwin and Mr John Palmer, a Tiverton solicitor, met Mr Scott on January 14, 1974. "We listened to his story, which was very lengthy. It went on much further in time than the manuscript he had given to us, in which he had committed to paper the story of his years of association with many people.

"We also saw a file of letters, which I do not wish to go into. But there were letters from Mr Bessell [Mr Peter Bessell, former Liberal MP], on that file. What we saw then and heard took a bit of taking in all at once."

Mr Keigwin said his association's officials had asked him for an undertaking that no mention of the file would be made during the election campaign. "I gave that undertaking."

The original manuscript was still in his possession "under lock and key", although a copy of it was taken for the constituency association officials. A copy was sent to Conservative Central Office.

Mr Barnes said yesterday: "It is correct that I have called on Mr Keigwin, and his account is substantially correct."

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Liberals reaffirm support for Mr Thorpe

Continued from page 1

to come before the Liberal Assembly for approval in September. After about half an hour's discussion, the MPs decided to defer a decision on the nine page document until the next meeting.

One Liberal MP said after the meeting that doubts and worries had been dispelled by Mr Thorpe's account of events. They had concluded that there were no letters in existence that could cast any suspicion on him.

A few hours before the Liberal MPs met, the Conservative Party had decided to make an official request to Mr Silkin, QC, the Attorney General, to investigate a suggestion that the Conservatives might have been involved in one aspect of developments concerning Mr Norman Scott, aged 35, a male model who recently made allegations, firmly denied, about the Liberal leader.

Mr Smith said in a television interview on Tuesday night: "I have had somebody in my office in the last hour who has told me that the £2,500 [Mr Scott has alleged that he was given £2,500 on the day of the general election in 1974 but did not say by whom] was paid by the Tory Central Office. I don't believe it, but I was told it; and there are so many speculations going about, as to by whom the £2,500 was paid, and for what purposes. . . ."

Sir Michael Havers, shadow Attorney General, wrote to Mr Silkin:

"The allegations involving Mr Scott and Mr Jeremy Thorpe have been no concern of mine until last night when Mr Cyril Smith, during an interview on *News at Ten*, said that he had been told by somebody in his office that the £2,500 Scott is alleged to have received on February 28, 1974, was paid by Tory Central Office."

Mr Smith had been asked to produce "this person" and the evidence, but had failed to do so. In view of the serious allegation Sir Michael asked Mr Silkin to initiate through the Director of Public Prosecutions" an immediate inquiry into the source of this alleged payment."

Mr Smith, asked to comment on Sir Michael's letter, said he thought he had "grossly overreacted". He had made it clear that he did not believe the central office was involved.

Mr Grimond, the former Liberal leader, defended Mr Thorpe when he was interviewed in the ITN programme *First Report* yesterday. He said Mr Thorpe had denied the allegations and should be allowed to carry on the role he had discharged successfully, leading the Liberal Party.

Fuller inquiry by police into Exmoor shooting

The Director of Public Prosecutions has asked for a fuller inquiry into a shooting incident on Exmoor last October involving two men, one of them Mr Norman Scott.

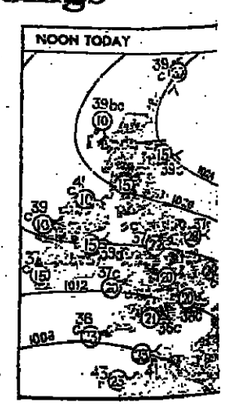
The investigation is being directed by Det Chief Supt Proven Sharpe, head of Devon and Cornwall CID, because so many of the people to be interviewed, and reinterviewed, live in Devon.

On December 19, Andrew Gino Newton, aged 29, an airline pilot, of Chiswick, London, was charged at Minehead with possessing a Mauser pistol and ammunition with intent to endanger life.

He was remanded on £50 bail until tomorrow.

In the incident on Exmoor, on October 24, a Great Dane dog, owned by Mr Scott, was shot dead.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today

Sun rises: 7.34 am Sun sets: 4.56 pm
Moon rises: 9.6 am Moon sets: 10.58 pm
First quarter: February 8.
Lighting up: 5.26 pm to 7.2 am.

High water: London Bridge, 4.36 am, 7.1m (23.2ft); 5.2 pm, 7.0m (23.0ft). Avonmouth, 10.5 am, 12.6m (41.3ft); 10.13 pm, 12.2m (40.1ft). Dover, 1.39 am, 6.6m (21.8ft); 1.59 pm, 6.3m (20.6ft). Hull, 9.3 am, 6.7m (22.0ft); 9.0 pm, 6.9m (22.5ft). Liverpool, 1.55 am, 8.5m (27.9ft); 2.8 pm, 8.7m (28.6ft).

A ridge of high pressure will move slowly S over Scotland, but an E air stream will persist over much of Britain.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, SW, Central S England: Mainly cloudy, light snow at times; wind E, moderate; max temp 2°C (36°F).

East Anglia, Midlands, E, NE, NW and Central N England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders: Mainly cloudy, a little drizzle or snow at times; wind E, moderate; max temp 3°C (37°F).

Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, N Ireland: Bright intervals, dry; wind E, light; max temp 4°C (39°F).

Wales: Mainly cloudy, dry; wind E, moderate; max temp 4°C

Channel Islands: Cloudy, occasional rain, hill fog; wind E, moderate; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Mostly dry, bright intervals; wintry showers in E and S; cold in most areas, night frost.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F
Aberdeen	r	7	45	Copenhgn	c	3	37	Lisbon	r	19	66
Amsterdam	c	6	43	Cologne	s	12	54	London	c	10	50
Athens	s	17	63	Edinburgh	c	7	45	Luxembrg	s	7	45
Barbados	s	29	84	Funchal	c	20	68	Madrid	r	12	54
Barcelona	s	17	63	Geneva	sn	1	34	Majorca	r	16	61
Berlin		1	34	Gibraltar	r	14	57	Malaga	r	19	66
Bermuda		21	70	Guernsey	r	8	46	Malta	c	16	61
Biarritz		13	55	Helsinki	s	-19	0	Miami	c	24	75
Brussels		6	43	Innsbruck	r	4	39	Montreal	sn	5	41
Budapest		4	39	Istanbul	c	11	52	Moscow	s	-1	30
Cardiff		10	50	Jersey	c	11	52	Munich	s	1	34
Chicago	c	-7	19	L. Palmas	f	19	66	Naples	r	13	55
New York	c	1	34	Oslo	c	-1	30	Paris	r	7	45
Nice	r	13	55	Palma	r	16	61	Reykjavik	c	-1	30
Oslo	c	-1	30	Paris	r	7	45	Rome	c	14	57
Palma	r	16	61	Reykjavik	c	-1	30	Stockholm	sn	-1	30
Paris	r	7	45	Rome	c	14	57	Tel Aviv	r	17	63
Reykjavik	c	-1	30	Stockholm	sn	-1	30	Venice	r	7	45
Rome	c	14	57	Tel Aviv	r	17	63	Vienna	c	1	34
Stockholm	sn	-1	30	Venice	r	7	45	Warsaw	c	-2	28
Tel Aviv	r	17	63	Vienna	c	1	34	Zurich	c	2	36
Venice	r	7	45	Warsaw	c	-2	28				
Vienna	c	1	34	Zurich	c	2	36				

Sea passages: S North Wind E, fresh or strong moderate, locally rough.

Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind E, moderate fresh; sea slight or moderate

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind E, fresh or strong moderate, occasionally rough

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 6 am to 6 pm, 3°C (37°F); min, 6 pm to 6 am, −1°C (30°F). Humidity, 83 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar. mean sea level, 6 am, 1,012.4 millibars, rising.

1000 millibars = 29.53in.

Overseas selling prices
Austria, Sch 15; Belgium, Fr 15; Canaries, Pes 40; Denmark, Kr 1.50; Finland, Fmk 1.50; France, Fr 1.50; Germany, Dmk 1.00; Greece, Dr 30; Holland, Dfl 1.75; Italy, Lire 130; Malta, 5c; Norway, Kr 1.50; Portugal, Esc 20; Spain, Pes 40; Sweden, Kr 1.50; Switzerland, Fr 1.50; U.S.A. $1.75; Canada, $1.00;

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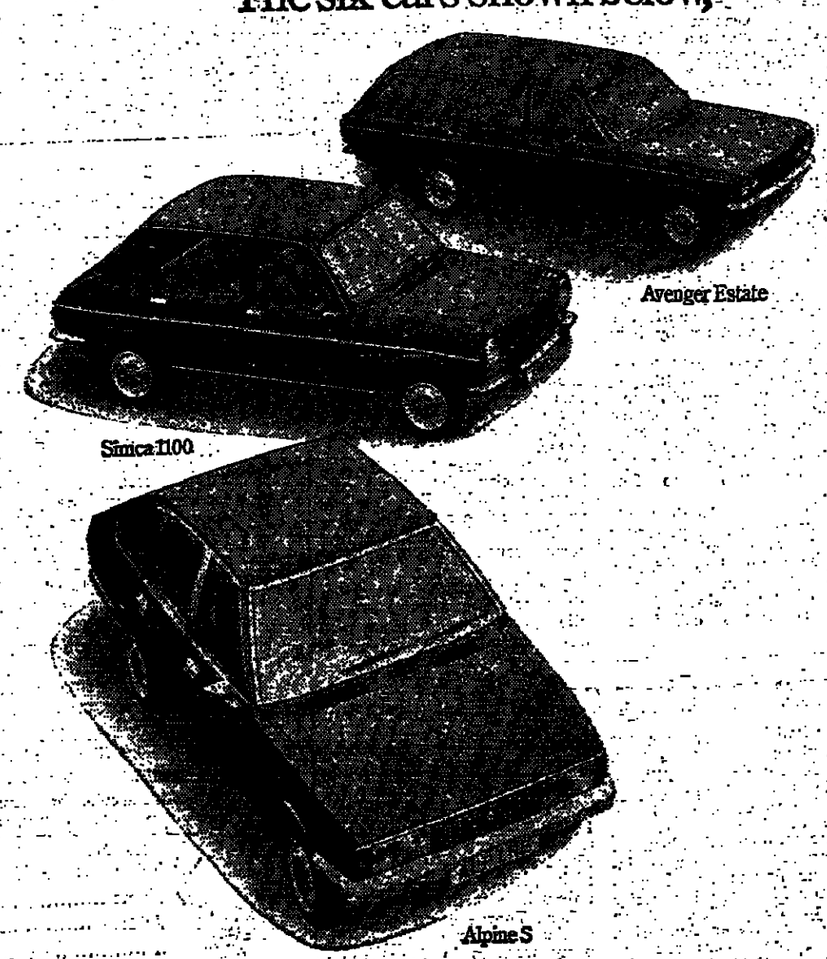
But, of course, there are many more to choose from.

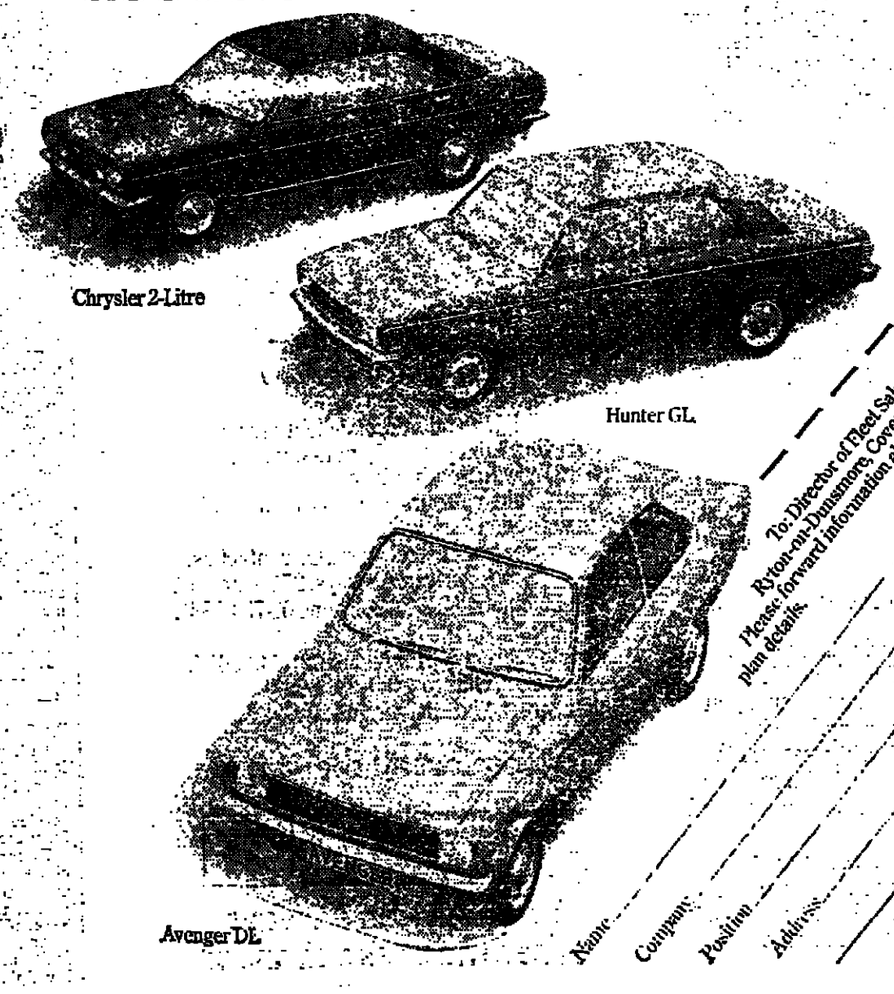
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HOME NEWS

Woman sitting in 'red light' window is cleared of soliciting

By Our Legal Correspondent

A revealingly clothed prostitute who sat in a ground-floor window in Southampton's red light district was acquitted by Southampton magistrates yesterday of soliciting. The bench found that the defendant, Alfrida Burridge, aged 26, had sat motionless and had not attempted to communicate with, or beckon, prospective clients.

The case was regarded as a test case for Southampton's "window girls", who number more than a hundred. The decision is not, of course, binding on any other court. Southampton is the only city in which "window girls" practise in any numbers. If a prostitute in another town were to be charged, and convicted, on similar facts, an appeal to the High Court could be made on a point of law.

The fact that the magistrates gave as their reason for acquitting the fact that no communication had taken place might, however, lead to the defence being raised in other soliciting cases that the prostitute, whether in a window or not, did not move or otherwise communicate with possible clients.

The police had asked the bench to decide whether Miss Burridge was breaking the law by sitting motionless in a high stool in a ground-floor bay window illuminated by a red light in Derby Road, Southampton.

Officers who watched her and many other girls in the area admitted that she made no attempt to signal to prospective clients outside.

Mr David Griffiths, a London barrister, who appeared for the defence, agreed that Miss Burridge was a prostitute. He said that by sitting in the window in such a way she was saying "I am here if you want me", and successfully submitted that that was advertising a vice service, but not soliciting.

Mr Roger Peach, for the Hampshire Police Authority, argued that Miss Burridge sat in her window to advertise that prostitution was available; to render her services as a prostitute; and to let prospective clients know that her premises were available for prostitution.

He added: "She was wearing a low-cut top and mini-skirt. The police saw men go inside and found that one of them had had sexual intercourse with her." He defined soliciting as enticement, and said Miss Burridge was trying to entice people into her premises.

Later, Miss Burridge said she would ask the other "window girls" in Southampton to share her costs of £120. "If I had lost the case, it would have meant the end of us window girls, and that would have resulted in about two rapes a day in Southampton."

Later, Miss Burridge was back in her window. She said: "I have got to raise the £120 for my defence costs myself. As I charge £5 a time that means 24 clients. It is going to be a long, long night."

Three-night Concorde holiday for £742

The world's first supersonic holiday has been launched by British Airways. From March 1 the airline's Sovereign Holidays will offer a Concorde three-night package tour to Bahrain for £742, not including meals there.

"This is largely aimed at the business traveller, but we think it will also appeal to the avant garde travel set", Mr G. Draper, director of the airline's travel division, said yesterday. The scheme guarantees accommodation in an area where hotel beds are scarce.

Flights will leave Heathrow each Monday and return on the following Thursday.

Concorde delay: Because of air traffic control delays British Airways' Concorde left Heathrow 27 minutes late for Bahrain yesterday. Only 40 out of 100 seats were taken up

On Monday, with only 39 passengers, the Concorde left 15 minutes late.

Reply to critic: British Airways replied yesterday to Sir Alan Cottrell, former Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government, who had said in a lecture that the Concorde project was "a tragic misdirection of resources" and "commercially unsound".

British Airways said: "History will prove Sir Alan wrong." The airline's last study of the Concorde's expected economic impact, in April, 1974, showed that British Airways could make money with the supersonic aircraft in the right conditions.

Diary, page 14

Change from the top aims at greater involvement of immigrants

Asians welcome new Conservative attitude

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Reconsideration of Conservative attitudes towards immigrant communities, which might have wide political repercussions, was welcomed among leading Asians yesterday.

Mr Praful Patel, secretary of the all-party Committee on UK Citizenship, said: "The race issue will now move into a new direction. In America both major parties have championed the cause of black people. I hope the same thing will happen here." The changes would isolate racists, he said.

On Tuesday Mr Narindar Saroop was adopted at Greenwich as the party's prospective parliamentary candidate. An Anglo-Asian Conservative Society has been formed and there are changes at party headquarters.

The reconsideration coincides with a report, published in October by the Community Relations Commission, on the extent to which racial minorities can influence elections.

It said that without the support of ethnic minorities it is likely that Labour would not have won more seats than the Conservatives in February, 1974, or an overall majority in October.

Some Conservatives believe that greater involvement of the immigrants and more opportunities for their interests to gain support will add force to new attitudes marked by the departure of Mr Enoch Powell, MP.



Mr Saroop: Prospective Tory.

One opponent of Mr Saroop's adoption at Greenwich made a point of emphasizing to me: "I am certainly not a Powellite."

Although the National Front is waiting to snap up dissident xenophobic Tories, put off by the party's new friendship with immigrant communities, the report says that anti-immigrant candidates made little or no progress at the October election. In some cases ethnic minority groups participated more in the 1974 elections than white people in the same areas.

According to Mr Patel, part of Labour's success was because some candidates were prepared to go into Asian temples, in which the introduction of British politics was a new phenomenon. Such communities could provide a couple of thousand block votes each.

Although the official Conservative policy has always been strongly anti-racist, senior members to whom I talked remain firmly in favour of strict immigration control.

Mr Saroop told me: "In my view there has to be a halt to further large-scale immigration, mainly for the sake of those immigrants already here, and for the rest of the community. The rest of the community also have their rights and privileges."

One indication of Conservative thinking was a speech by Mr Bernard Weatherill, MP, the party's deputy chief whip, to Sikhs in the Albert Hall last month for the tercentenary celebrations of the Guru Tegh Bahadur.

He described as interesting an idea by the *Sikh Courier* that Sikhs would be happy to pay a small additional insurance premium for the religious freedom not to wear crash helmets on motor cycles. Although Mr Weatherill, speaking personally, could not commit the party, he promised that Mrs Thatcher would receive a deputation to discuss the Sikh's point of view.

While attention being given to the Asians has caused most impact so far, West Indians also are being wooed.

The party's new attitude is also reflected at headquarters. It is just over a year since Mr Andrew Rowe was appointed community affairs director. Under him, Mr Mervyn Kohler has, among other tasks, that of liaison with local parties and the parliamentary party over race relations. The reappraisal will also be sustained in local areas by youth officers, to increase involvement by coloured people and encourage more of them to put forward their points of view.

The party's aim is to dispel "Labour myth-making in the immigrant communities", as one Conservative put it, that Labour is more sympathetic to them. Mr Saroop told me: "It is a total myth that there is no racial prejudice in the Labour Party. One has only to look at Labour clubs round the country. It is something they do not want to air."

Road inqu protesters storm int town hall

From Michael Hornsel
Shipley

Protesters broke thro barriers of stewards vaded the town hall at West Yorkshire, v after the inspector troubled Aire Valley t inquiry had moved the there and excluded th

A steward, Mr Walt aged 47, was taken to with cracked ribs and charged after treatmen the struggle to get council chamber, wh inquiry was being hel ture was smashed and doors of the chamb damaged.

The police were call Mr Ernest Ridge, the holding the inquiry £35m road plan. No arre made, but Mr Ridge to abandon the inqui which there have alrea summonses against 28 until today.

A High Court injun expected to be sought t stop the inquiry becaus Ridge's decision to ho secret under special a given to him by Mr C Secretary of State f Environment.

After protesters ha into the chamber, M Burnhope, a local farm Mr Ridge: "I can say are not going to have a inquiry starting in thi until you take notice o we have said. I advise get down to Marsham [headquarters of the mi and get proper rules and dure for an inquiry and thing we have asked for we will give you the hearing of your life.

"For the first time history of motorways will have an indepe inspector instead of a of the Department o Environment."

Mr John Tyme, of the nal Conservation Society, represents 183 objectors, the protesters to leave about 20 minutes. "We made our point", he said

Later, at a meeting held the evacuation of the town Mr Tyme said: "The fin of the inquiry will be reg as invalid by every obj and any inquiries there will similarly be boycotte

When Mr Ridge decid move the inquiry into p session after interruption objectors, a loudspeaker s was arranged to relay th ceedings to a public hall.

Mr Ridge rejected an by Mr Tyme to await a of inquiry procedure ann by Mr Silkin, Minister f ning and Local Governm also said that he wou make a judgment on a sion that the Departmen Environment had fail comply with the Highwa 1959, and that the inqu therefore illegal.

Mr David Keene, con the department, appea Mr Ridge not to hold the ing in private, saying th Crosland considered th adjournment should be only as a last resort as such a decision was premature.

More of England's ancient courts may be abolished

By Our Legal Correspondent

A further stage in dismantling England's ancient courts system is proposed in a Law Commission report published yesterday. It recommends that many local courts, some founded more than a thousand years ago, should cease to have jurisdiction to hear legal disputes. They would, however, be able to continue to exercise any remaining ceremonial, social or other non-judicial functions.

The report does little more than propose giving legal effect to an already existing situation.

Unless legislation is passed abolishing their judicial role, however, there would always remain the possibility of a litigant's insisting on having his case heard in one of them.

One court, the Estray Court for the Lordship of Denbigh, still exercises a legal jurisdiction today, and is excepted from the general abolition. It deals only with the adjudication of claims concerning the ownership of stray sheep.

Some of the more active local courts were abolished as a result of the Courts Act, 1971, which reorganized and streamlined the system of higher courts in England and Wales.

Manorial courts are among those whose judicial functions the Law Commission proposes to end. Others include the City of London Court of Husting, the Coventry Court of Orphans, the Great Grimsby Foreign Court, the Basingstoke Court of Ancient Demesne, and the Maldon Court of Record for passing the Estates of Married Women.

In general, the commission says, all Courts Baron, Courts of Pie Poudre, Courts of the Staple, Courts of the Clerks of the Markers, Hundred Courts, and Views of Frankpledge, should have their jurisdiction curtailed.

Law Commission. "*Jurisdiction of Certain Ancient Courts*". Stationery Office, 30p.



"Corn" made of aluminium tubing and glass fibre in the Whitechapel Art Gallery, London.

Press and advertising freedom struggle

By a Staff Reporter

Newspapers and the advertising industry will have to fight for their independence one day, Mr Alastair Burnet, editor of the *Daily Express*, said yesterday.

Addressing a lunch of the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising, the trade association for advertising agencies, he said the difficulties most of Fleet Street faced had been particularly intense for the more serious newspapers. *The Guardian* and *The Observer* were among those that had suffered most.

The preponderance of "bad news" such as about bombs, inflation, Northern Ireland and unemployment, "all things that have to be reported to an adult public", was among the reasons for falling circulations. Most adults did not want to know about them.

But if there was no newspaper seeking to bring about the necessary changes in the country, the advertising industry would be threatened even more than newspapers.

If newspapers could not rally moderates in the exercise of power in this country, "then the newspapers of mere entertainment will not help you or me", he said.

"I am sure that what the free press and the advertising industry have to fight for, one day, goes beyond the ordinary calculations of our everyday business."

Mr Burnet wished newspapers were better prepared for such a fight. Their future depended on management, machinery and demand in the economy, as in many other industries; but probably most of all on the quality of the journalists who worked for them, the originality of their mental processes.

"I should be less than frank with you if I did not confess to some insistent doubts about that quality today", he said. He suggested that the average capability in journalism has not been improving as fast as the general education, the general awareness and even the general sophistication of the public".

Management-union agreements, such as preventing the direct hiring of talented people from universities or elsewhere without their spending time in provincial training first, had run counter to the attraction of the best talents.

Baby milk guide planned

By Penny Symon and Ronald Emler

The Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday that it will soon issue guidance to the medical profession on the use of baby milks, after its conclusion that National Dried Milk and similar proprietary products might harm infants under six months.

The guidance will list modified baby milks considered suitable for infants under that age. They include Cow and Gate Baby Milk Plus, Cow and Gate V Formula, Cow and Gate Premium, Ostermilk Complete Formula, SMA and SMA Gold Cap (S26).

Mr Meacher, Under-Secretary of State at the department, told the Commons on Tuesday that National Dried Milk, and similar products, could no longer be recommended for babies under six months because of the risk of tetany in the first two weeks of life, and hypernatraemia, too high a concentration of sodium chloride, had been increasingly recognized, although not statistically evaluated.

The department also points out that Cow and Gate Baby Milk 2, Ostermilk Two, Carnation Evaporated Milk and any other evaporated or condensed milks sold as suitable for babies and infants entail a similar risk.

Leading manufacturers said last night that they did not envisage shortages of approved brands.

Baby milk sales are worth about £12m a year to the industry, and the three brands from which the Government has withdrawn approval are estimated to make up three fifths of the market. National Dried Milk, which last year cost the taxpayer £1.8m in subsidy, is made under contract by baby food companies.

The department said it was looking into the possibility, as a matter of urgency, of amending the Welfare Food Order, 1975, to supply proprietary brands of modified milk powders, instead of National Dried, for those entitled to free issues.

The Foundation for the Study of Infant Death said yesterday that unmodified milk powder might be a contributory factor, but by no means the sole cause of unexplained infant death, sometimes called cot death.

Ex-soldier 'going to Angola' fined and banned

Stephen Nagle, aged 23, a former paratrooper who wants to go to Angola, was back home with his mother last night. He missed the aircraft taking mercenaries to the African war because the police arrested him before its departure.

At Marylebone Magistrates' Court yesterday Mr Nagle, of Home Farm Road, Hanwell, Middlesex, was fined £100 for driving with excess alcohol in Notting Hill in May, 1974, and using a car without insurance, a licence or MoT certificate. He was also banned from driving for 18 months.

Asking for time to pay the fines, the defendant's mother told Mr Edmund MacDermott, the magistrate: "My son is going to Angola and he will be paid £150 a week. He will send the money to pay the fine." Mr Nagle was given two weeks in which to pay.

West Country faces water crisis

Housewives in the West country were told yesterday that they face a ban on the use of washing machines and dish-washers unless they ration water.

Wessex Water Authority said its capacity throughout the summer would allow for no more than five gallons of water a head a day, against the normal consumption of 30 to 40 gallons.

The authority's emergency plans include cutting night supplies. Farming and industry may also be affected.

£2m for job-creation bod in northern region

By Our Northern Industrial Correspondent

There are at least 20,000 people over the age of 50, about 18,500 of them men, and 2,655 school-leavers without work in Yorkshire and Humberside who could benefit from the Manpower Services Commission's job-creation programme.

A new action committee to administer the commission's programme in the region was formed at Leeds yesterday under the chairmanship of Professor J. A. Bottomley, of Bradford University. Mr Dewi Rees, director of the commission, said the committee was starting "with a clean £2m note in its pocket" for the region.

If there was a real dem Yorkshire and Humbers did not expect much di in obtaining a further amount.

The establishment of th mittee has been made p by an extra £10m alloc the Government to be £30m original spending up the Manpower S Commission.

Since its launching October, to create tem jobs for people between 24 and over 50, 18 proj the region have been Another 30 are under co tion. Nationally, 561 providing more than 7,000 have been approved at a just under £6m.

Civic trading opposed

By Our Political Correspondent

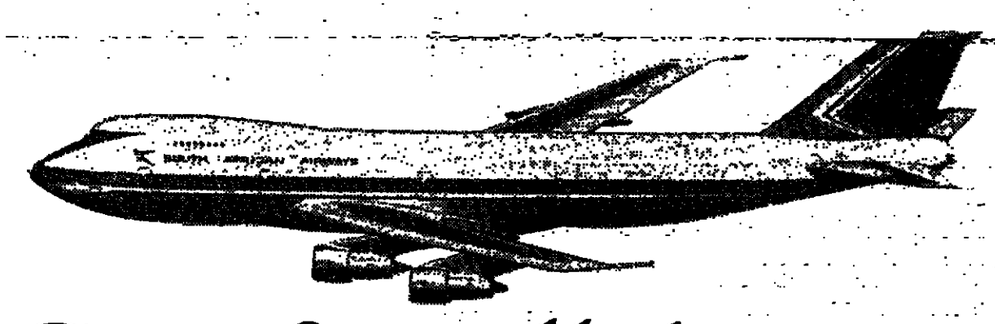
Objections to the West Midlands County Council Bill, to allow local authorities to engage in a wide range of retail and service activities, are coming from the nationalized industries.

Twenty-seven petitioners include the British Gas Corporation, the Midlands Electricity Board, the Post Office, and the Severn-Trent Water Authority.

Among the others are the fruit and potato trades, the Multiple Shops Federation, the National Association of Licensed Bingo and Social Clubs, the Brewers' Society, and the CBI.

It is rare for a private Bill promoted by a local authority to provoke such wide opposition. There seems to be little chance of its getting a second reading unless it is modified.

Lord Thorneycroft, chairman of the Conservative Party, told party workers in Birmingham yesterday that the Bill must not be allowed to survive intact.

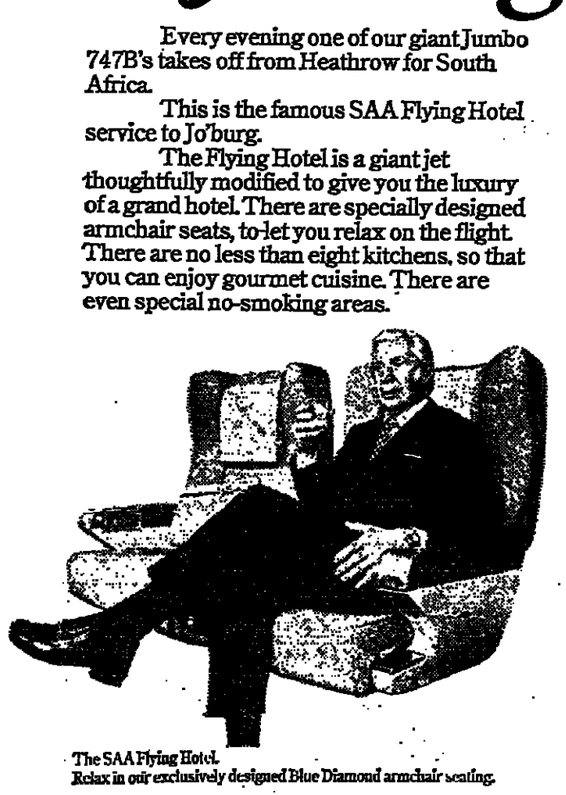


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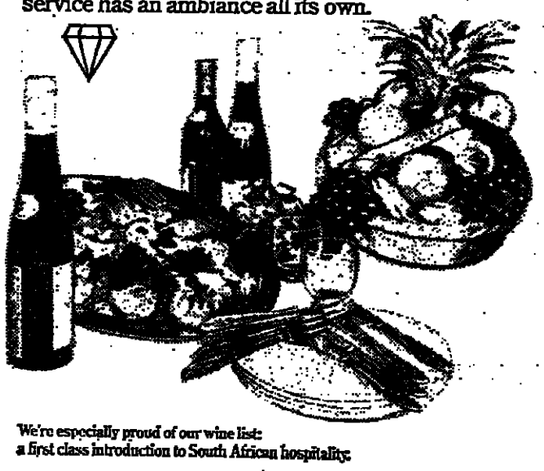
The Flying Hotel is a giant jet thoughtfully modified to give you the luxury of a grand hotel. There are specially designed armchair seats, to let you relax on the flight. There are no less than eight kitchens, so that you can enjoy gourmet cuisine. There are even special no-smoking areas.



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You'll find the service complements the design. Our maitre d'hotel and his friendly staff are intent on making sure you enjoy every second of your trip. To while away the minutes there is a big feature film and a choice of six stereo music programmes. (IATA regulations require us to make a small charge for these).

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Wood & Leisure Land, the owners of the Loch Rannoch Hotel, Kinloch Rannoch, Perthshire, are building luxury highland lodges in the 250 acre grounds of the hotel. The site is unique overlooking Loch Rannoch and the lodges will be of extremely high quality, consisting of over 1,000 sq.ft. of living area and over 200 sq.ft. of roof terrace overlooking Loch Rannoch to take advantage of the glorious views. They will consist of an open-plan split-level living/dining/and kitchen area and cloakroom on the first floor. Downstairs will be two bedrooms, two bathrooms and a sauna. They will be luxuriously fitted and furnished. Two special features being a superb kitchen and solar heating.
They will be sold on a multi-ownership basis, a new concept in this country, where it is possible to buy the week or weeks of your choice in perpetuity, thus providing you with a luxurious highland lodge for ever at a modest outlay. *First two lodges completed, fully furnished, fitted, and available for viewing.*

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Stanley, the Post Union, re- esterday. vice seems with sub- having to exchange azine says. report, 739 Consumers' exchanges itish Isles eir calls. per cent of o connect; h, but were use of a impossible had more than else- st England rvice. bers who ought they d on their Fifty-nine had their

elpers told had been ome time 8 months". Some got thin a day, d to wait a e of them

for over a month. "Yet only two subscribers were given any rebate on their rental in compensation."

Replying to the criticisms, Mr Stanley said the total number of calls made last year was nearly 16,000 million, whereas the *Which?* survey was made on the basis of about 16,000. Post Office records showed a steady improvement over the period.

Mr Stanley conceded that there was room for improvement, provided adequate finances were available for investments for a change from Strowger to electronic equipment.

The Post Office said: "We analyse system performance on eight million calls a year. *Which?* sampled 16,000 calls on 1 per cent of our exchanges, which must introduce sampling errors.

"Our studies show that more than 7 per cent of calls fail to get through because customers misdial." Almost 90 per cent of calls to an operator were answered within 15 seconds and almost 88 per cent of calls to directory inquiries within 25 seconds.

Roof repairs: The magazine says that only half the members of the association who employed professionals to carry out roof repairs were satisfied by the work, in spite of high prices that were sometimes charged. A quarter of those who reported were very dissatisfied.

Which? suggests that a roofing firm or builder is likely to ask between £10 and £25 for replacing a few odd tiles and up to £600 for reroofing a small house. Consumers are advised to do it themselves provided they can identify what is wrong and feel safe working on roofs.

House sales waiting for a rise in prices

By Our Estates Correspondent

About 5 per cent fewer houses were available for sale in England and Wales at the end of last year than on August 31, according to a survey of the housing market compiled by the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers.

The figures appear to confirm suggestions, the society comments, that many people have taken their houses off the market to await a change in the financial climate.

The survey says there were 4.43 per cent fewer houses under £10,000 for sale at the end of the period; in the range from £10,000 to £20,000 there was a reduction of 3.68 per cent in the number on sale; and in the £20,000 to £30,000 range there was a drop of 7.61 per cent.

There is no evidence, the report says, that prices increased sharply in the last four months of the year. The average increase in the three categories was 1.47 per cent, the highest rise, 2.2 per cent, being in the under-£10,000 range.

Woman murder charge

John Briggs, aged 21, a bricklayer, was remanded in custody until February 11 at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday, charged with murdering Mrs Grace Quinnell, at Claylands Road, South Lambeth, London, on January 26.

End of an era in trade unionism

From Trevor Fishlock
Cardiff

Why, someone asked, was Mr Dai Francis, the South Wales miners' secretary, who retires today, his sixty-fifth birthday, invited into the circle of Welsh bards, the Welsh establishment's equivalent of the Honours List?

"Well", one of the circle's chiefs said, after some thought, "Dai is an odd sort of chap."

He meant that there is more to Mr Francis, a bundle of paradoxes, than meets the eye. One side, the side usually presented in newspapers, is the tough negotiator, the stubborn communist brought up on 1926 soup kitchens and class struggle, whose rolling Dulais Valley voice expounded the hard line, particularly in the miners' strikes of 1972 and 1974.

That image, however, hides the humanity and humour of the man. The other side is the passionate lover of the Welsh language, of poetry and of songs sung to the harp; who has missed only one national eisteddfod since 1930, who is a leading figure in the miners' eisteddfod, who is a devoted family man.

Mr Francis finds no conflict between his communism, his



Mr Francis: "An odd sort of chap".

Welsh chapel heritage, and his own sort of Christian belief, his Welsh nationalism and his internationalism. He last went to chapel 40 years ago but knows more hymns than many ministers, and he will quote the Sermon of the Mount, in Welsh, as easily as he quotes modern working-class leaders, and as readily as he discusses the *Morning Star* and ways to boost its circulation. "Just because I read Marx, it doesn't mean I threw Christianity out of the window."

His 13 years as secretary has been a time of turmoil in the coal industry and Mr Francis has had more than his share of stormy meetings. With his retirement an era ends in South Wales trade unionism.

He is the fifth generation of a mining family, went into the pits at 14, in 1926, sang in soup kitchens, became a union lodge official at 24, and joined the Communist Party in 1936 when the Spanish Civil War started. He worked underground for 17 years and joined the South Wales miners' executive in 1943.

Of the 1972 miners' strike, he says: "It was our great achievement. Men had failed and had been betrayed in 1926. But in 1972 the miners had their revenge and the grandsons of the men who lost in 1926 saw to it. There was such solidarity that they could never lose. It was a demonstration of working-class power and of the importance of coal. After that, 1974 was a picnic."

Year's jail for man who distributed pornography

Brian Jacobs, aged 30, a fire assessor, was jailed for a year after being convicted by a jury of five women and seven men at Snaresbrook Crown Court, London, yesterday, of possessing items, including 600 indecent films and 3,000 pornographic magazines, for publication for gain. He was ordered to pay costs of nearly £700.

The trial was watched by the Director of Public Prosecutions, the police and organizations campaigning against pornography, such as the New Festival of Light. The outcome might be an important factor in deciding whether to go ahead with future prosecutions.

The material was seized by officers of the obscene publications squad in February last year from Mr Jacobs's first-floor flat in Plashet Road, Plaistow, east London.

Mr Timothy Nash, for the prosecution, said the material was in the "hard porn" class, and was very likely to deprave and corrupt.

At the beginning of the trial the jury sat with court officials in the darkened courtroom and watched a selection of the films. They included scenes of nuns having intercourse, a woman being kidnapped and subjected to sexual acts by two men, and two women having intercourse with a dog.

Mr Jacobs addressed the jury from the dock. He said he sold to responsible retailers, making certain that sensitive people and minors did not get hold of the material. At the most he made about £150 a month in his dealings.

He called medical experts who said the material was in the public good. They included Dr Christine Pickard and Mr Maurice Yaffe, a psychologist, who both gave evidence in the Linda Lovelace case.

5,000 jobs created in new Scots councils

From Our Correspondent
Kirkcaldy

The number of local government employees in Scotland rose by five thousand on the reorganization of the councils last year, Mr Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland, has told Mr Harry Gourlay, MP for Kirkcaldy, it was disclosed yesterday.

The Scottish Office and the Convention of Scottish local authorities is keeping the numbers under regular review, Mr Ross added.

On May 16, the date of reorganization, there were 185,323 salaried and weekly-paid staff, compared with 180,470 in January, 1975, a difference of 4,853 or 2.69 per cent.

Mr Ross said the increase was less than the comparable figure for reorganization in England and Wales, but he had emphasized to authorities the need to restrict manpower and expenditure.

In brief

Head overruled on girls' dress

Stoke-on-Trent education department yesterday overruled a head teacher who twice sent home two girls because they were wearing trousers at school.

Deborah and Jacqueline Smith, twins aged 15, were allowed back to Holdem Lane High School after being sent home on Monday and Tuesday. Their mother, Mrs Christine Smith, was determined that they should be allowed to wear trousers in the cold, and asked Mr Reginald Walker, the headmaster.

Student vote on union tied

A vote by the students' union at Manchester University on whether to disaffiliate from the National Union of Students was tied at 547 votes each way.

Disaffiliation was defeated at Keele University on Tuesday by 300 votes to 50; at St David's College, Lampeter, Wales, by 95 votes to 91 yesterday; and overwhelmingly at Portsmouth Polytechnic.

Luton choir ending

The Luton Girls' Choir is to disband after 40 years. Mr Arthur Davies, the founder and director, has been forced to retire at the age of 78 through ill-health, and there is no one to take over.

Island work curb

The Channel island of Alderney has introduced work permits for EEC nationals, including United Kingdom citizens, to protect employment among its native inhabitants.

rm examination condemned

mon sixth- nation has the latest the journal id thought s to merge the Certifi- Education ise in egali- an usually ne the less in a field with egali-

f forward a working is Council. ivided by l is likely en it meets t it to the ication and pproval.

has been Oxford and tion boards r academic Assistant has some its confer- sked for a was rejected weeks ago. *Cambridge* orking party port without strate one of its main contentions that there is a waste of resources in the present system because of an ill-defined overlap between GCE and CSE.

The working party envisages three possibilities. One is a common system but different papers for different pupils of ability. That, the *Cambridge Review* says, would be no great innovation.

Alternatively, it is suggested, the same examination papers could be set with different questions for pupils of differing abilities. That, the review contends, would be full of disadvantages. A less confident child might attempt questions that were too easy for him and did not do him justice.

The third possibility is a single examination for all pupils. All candidates would be required to attempt questions of every degree of difficulty. The review says weaker candidates would get only about 10 per cent in marks and would not find the examination a rewarding experience. Able candidates, while not averse to answering endless easy questions, might wonder why they were required to do so. They might be tempted to pass over the easier questions to find more challenging ones.

Cambridge Review, 7 Green Street, Cambridge, CB2 3JU; price 40p.

gger irs

agger school proposed by chief educa- fordshire, to o keep rural ig. uncil takes school each £1m a year; buses run at cannot be lic. If school aggered the e the number

Safer pram rules announced

Safer perambulators and pushchairs should be the result of new safety requirements announced yesterday by Mr Williams, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

The regulations include requirements on stability of prams, the efficiency of brakes, the provision of attachment points for safety harnesses and the adequacy of safety devices on folding prams and pushchairs.

y attracts fewer lyde graduates

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-degree gradu- lyde Univer- bs in industry ast year, com- n 1974, despite nore positions he figures were day by the uni- t advisory ser-

Mowat, student said it was the number had he recession of employers cut nt programmes. all was in mana- anufacturing in-

The service refers to a recent report by the National Economic Development Office drawing attention to the continuing shortage of qualified engineers. The number of first-degree graduates in engineering—at Strathclyde, which is famous for its engineering courses, remained about the same in 1974 and 1975, when the number of overseas students is discounted. But the number taking up jobs in industry and commerce dropped by a tenth.

The service says graduates were attracted away from industry by higher salaries in the public service, particularly local government, teaching and the Civil Service.

any and its workers survey findings

ng Reporter ring portrait of y from a social emerges from a lished today in It is based on a stigation of the Company Ltd and mainly by the Research Council Rowntree Trust. have been re- management and nion representa- company, who ex- rn at its "enor- of inaccuracies tions". t ranges over s of the company's cluding employee relations, health and safety provisions, the quality of its product and consumer services. About 100 companies were invited to cooperate but only Avon agreed.

The company has invested large amounts of time and money in designing and administering wage payment systems for works employees, but often without achieving a desired level of productivity, the report concludes.

Such systems, like those throughout industry, have failed to bring about increases in productivity beyond the short term, deteriorated within two or three years, and proved very expensive to replace.

Gas

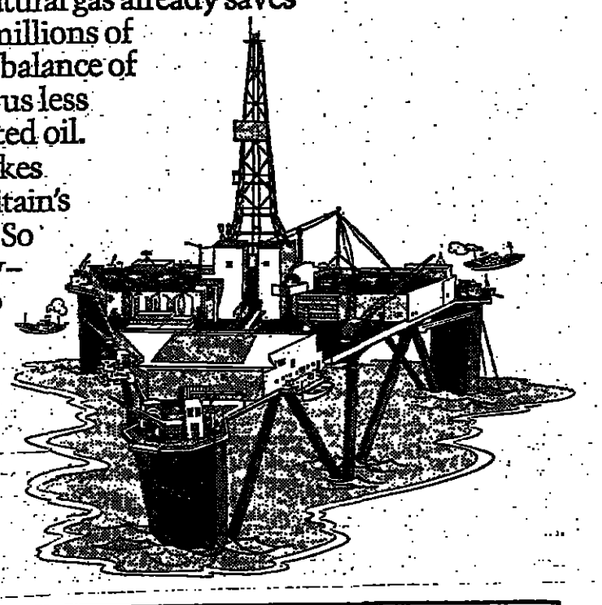
HERE TODAY, HERE TOMORROW ...AND FOR A VERY LONG TIME TO COME.

The supplies of natural gas so far discovered (and which Britain has been enjoying for about eight years now) will last Britain for a very long time to come—at current rates of usage.

And, with the firm expectation of further significant finds in the North Sea and around other parts of the coast, Britain can look forward to enjoying the unique benefits of this clean, efficient fuel into the next century.

What is more, natural gas already saves Britain hundreds of millions of pounds a year on the balance of payments, and make us less dependent on imported oil.

All of which makes natural gas one of Britain's most precious assets. So please use it carefully—it's much too good to waste.



HOW YOU CAN SAVE GAS AND MONEY

1 Use your central heating time clock sensibly
2 Turn your thermostat down a degree or two
3 Turn off unnecessary radiators
4 Insulate your roof space and hot water system
5 Have your gas equipment properly maintained and serviced
6 Ask at your local showroom for further information about how to save gas—and save money

SAVE IT

BRITISH GAS

PARLIAMENT, February 4, 1976

UK prepared to reach short-term fishing agreement with Iceland

House of Commons

The British Government are prepared to explore the prospects of a short-term agreement with Iceland without prejudice to a longer agreement, MR JAMES CALLAGHAN, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in a statement about the fisheries dispute.

Meanwhile, British trawlers are being advised to resume fishing within the disputed 200-mile zone.

The Icelandic Government stated yesterday that it is unable to accept proposals for fishing limitations by British trawlers which were put to them in the recent London talks. The Icelandic Government has however expressed readiness to resume talks on a short-term agreement.

The British Ambassador in Reykjavik has this morning been in touch with Icelandic officials and I authorized him to reply that despite our disappointment we are prepared to explore the prospects of a short-term agreement without prejudice to a longer one.

It remains to be seen whether it is possible for the Icelandic Government to make any realistic offer or indeed any offer at all.

The House should be aware that during the London talks the Icelandic Government was not in a position to negotiate and was even unable to agree to temporary arrangements to cover the five day period during which they were considering the results of the talks. Nevertheless we shall continue to do our best and British officials are standing by to go to Reykjavik.

As for the immediate future, the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries is now advising the fishing fleet to resume fishing in the normal way in these international waters, for so they still are, as from midnight tonight. If our trawlers are interfered with they will be protected.

The Government have also invited the industry for urgent talks about the limitations which we would be prepared voluntarily to impose upon ourselves in order to ensure that the British catch does not endanger the conservation of cod stocks. On two occasions in the past I have offered to accept mediation in this matter and the Icelandic Government has refused. I repeat the offer again today.

I am conscious of the concern of our Nato allies and shall ensure that they are fully informed of the facts and of our intentions.

The record will show that we seek good relations with our Icelandic neighbours and I believe many of them feel the same way about us. But no nation has the right unilaterally to impose measures which are unreasonable in themselves and which strike directly at the livelihood of our people in the fishing industry.

MR TUGENDHAT, an Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs (City of London and Westminster, South, C)—At this moment our first thoughts lie with the British fishermen on the fishing banks off Iceland. These are brave men doing a difficult and dangerous task and going about their legal concerns. The first responsibility of the British Government and of all parties lies to them.

We share Mr Callaghan's desire for a settlement. For as long as there is any chance of reaching a settlement we will do nothing that makes that task more difficult. His point about the possibility of a short-term agreement holds out some encouragement. Like him we want good relations with Iceland, our Nato allies.

Under what circumstances would it be appropriate for the Navy to return? We hope such a situation will not arise, but could he give any guidance as to what circumstances might be appropriate? Where are the frigates? Could he hold out some hope that he will in future devote the same kind of effort to endeavouring to renegotiate the common fisheries policy as he has to some other aspects of Britain's Common Market membership?

MR CALLAGHAN—The British trawler fleet have been subjected to considerable harassment and irritation, to put it mildly, by the way they have been told to haul in their nets, and then to start fishing.

A kind of cat-and-mouse game is being played with them and they have had to put up with it because all of us feel we do not want to give the Icelandic Government—or those in the Icelandic Government who do not want agreement—any excuse for breaking off talks. Now the position is different. There are no talks going on; there is no agreement. Therefore as our fleet is in international waters if they are interfered with then the Navy will protect them. That is the simple position. I wish to go no further.

Two frigates are about 200 miles away from the main coastline and a third is stationed in Scotland and is able to return.

The question of the common fisheries policy is complicated by the law of the sea conference which is starting again in March. I do not know when it will conclude or how. I have no doubt that the common fisheries policy will have to take account of any changed circumstances that might result from an agreement at the law of the sea conference to extend economic zones or fishery limits.

MR JAMES JOHNSON (Kingston upon Hull, West, Lab)—I compliment Mr Callaghan and his colleagues on the efforts they have made. Many people believe they have fallen over backwards in their attempts to accommodate the Icelanders. There is enormous sadness among all of us who know them well and we hope an accommodation can be attained.

Thousands of fishermen and their families are sceptical about the sincerity of some of the Cabinet in Iceland. If any warps are cut the fishermen, who believe they are fishing lawfully in international waters, would expect the Navy to come to their aid.

MR CALLAGHAN—It is particularly important when we are dealing with a small nation that we should not appear to be abusing our position. But it is the British Government which has put forward every proposal, every conciliatory suggestion, and have made every attempt to try to come to some agreement. I am not certain the Icelandic Government is in a position to come to an agreement. We will go on seeing whether this is so and endeavour not to make things any more difficult than we can if such an agreement can be reached.

MR WATT (Banffshire, Scot Nat)—We need to negotiate from a position of strength. Until such time as we ourselves extend the limits to 200 miles Mr Callaghan will not be in such a strong position.

MR CALLAGHAN—If there is to be an extension of limits I hope the House will accept it should be done by agreement and not unilaterally. (Cheers.) If we were to have international anarchy in this the results for all parties would be far worse than if we tried to negotiate an agreement. At the moment the Icelandic Government has taken unilateral action which, considering Britain's worldwide interests, it would be foolish to accept.

MR McNAMARA (Kingston upon Hull, Central, Lab)—It will do the Government considerable advantage if they publish all the various options they gave the Icelandic Government to show the reasonableness of our position. One would like to think one could have a short-term agreement but the spring period has always been the most lucrative and one would want more than just a quarter of the catch.

MR CALLAGHAN—In the absence of an agreement we shall behave responsibly and I am sure we shall get a response from the industry when we invite them to discuss the level of catch. We are as conscious of the need to conserve cod stocks in the Icelanders' interests as are the Icelanders. I have made that clear to their ministers.

The main option has been publicized already. We said to the Icelandic Government: "If our scientists cannot agree on the level of catch for viable stocks, you choose the level and we shall take 28 per cent." I cannot think of anything more acceptable than that.

MR EDWARD TAYLOR (Glasgow, Cathcart, C)—Will Mr Callaghan take all possible steps to make sure that our case is fully explained to our Nato allies?

MR CALLAGHAN—I shall be meeting all the Nato ambassadors in London in half an hour and I have explained the position to Dr Luns, the Secretary General of Nato. As a result of our actions and of our failure to respond to what have undoubtedly been provocations, there is much more understanding in Nato now than there was a year ago.

Rejection of Bill to end Post Office monopoly

MR GOW (Eastbourne, C) was refused leave by 166 votes to 153 to bring in a Bill to amend the Post Office Act 1969, the effect of which would have been to abolish the statutory monopoly of the corporation with regard to letters.

That monopoly (he said) did not extend to parcels or newspapers, which could be and were, collected by other agencies, individuals and charities.

The Bill sought to repeal Sections 3 and 4 of the Post Office Act, 1953, and Section 23 of the Post Office Act, 1969, which gave the corporation its exclusive monopoly and which laid down the penalty of a fine of £5 for every letter delivered in defiance of that monopoly.

The Conservatives were deeply suspicious of monopolies in general and state monopolies in particular. There was a growing public dissatisfaction about the cost and the reliability of the letter post service.

The Post Office estimated that as a result of the increases last year there would be a loss of 834 million letters this year and despite official denials to the contrary the cost of first class mail was likely to go up again within the next two months from 8½p to 10½p. If that occurred the cost of a first class letter would be higher in Britain than in any western European country, except Norway.

What was required was the fresh breath of free enterprise and free competition to blow through the Post Office which would be to the advantage of the corporation and the public that it was supposed to serve.

Eighty per cent of all letters posted in Britain were business letters and more businesses were seeking ways to get round the statutory monopoly. It not only damaged the commercial life of the country but it dealt hammer blows to charities.

MR GOLDING (Newcastle-under-Lyme, Lab) said substantial sums had been paid to the corporation by the taxpayer over the past two or three years but that was because of the policy of the last Conservative Government of pegging costs below economic levels.

If the Bill became law the immediate consequences would be the creaming off of the profitable part of the business and leaving the unprofitable part to the state. Some private commercial concerns would get their services marginally cheaper and the unprofitable and uneconomic part of the service would be left to the ordinary taxpayer and citizen.

The issue was whether harm should be done to the ordinary user because of the greed of the business community.

It is my belief (he said) that we have to maintain the national postal monopoly in the interests of the small private user and that is also the view of the Post Office, the unions and the Post Office Users' National Council.

Measure to remove impediments to comprehensive education system

MR MULLEY, Secretary of State for Education and Science (Sheffield Park, Lab), moving the second reading of the Education Bill, said it was intended to give effect to the Government policy on comprehensive education.

Seven local education authorities had declared their intention in principle of retaining some measure of selection. There were also a small number of voluntary schools, nearly all of which were non-denominational, likely to be an impediment to complete reorganization.

He would have preferred to deal with all this by agreement rather than legislation, but the Government faced an impasse. They could progress no farther by discussion and agreement towards their declared policy of comprehensive secondary education for all.

He hoped the Bill would lead to a determined effort by all local authorities in England and Wales to bring reorganization to a speedy and efficient conclusion. He was confident that once the Bill became law all local education authorities, including the seven who had said they had intended to retain a measure of selection, would be willing to implement it.

The Bill would not and could not ensure that all schools would be comprehensive within the next two or three years. There were local authorities and voluntary schools which would like to reorganize but faced resource problems.

Some 70 per cent of the children were being educated in comprehensive schools. As reorganization extended, it reached into more difficult areas and in some of those further progress at a time of declining school population was difficult to achieve even when everyone—teachers, parents and local authorities—was anxious to introduce comprehensive schools.

MR CHANNON (Southend, West, C) asked what Mr Mulley's policy was in areas where the majority of parents were against comprehensive education.

MR MULLEY said the Government could not legislate or determine national policy on isolated examples. (Conservative protests.)

The Bill required all local education authorities to have regard to the comprehensive principle, that was that all secondary education should be provided in schools to which pupils were admitted without reference to ability or aptitude. He would have power to require a local education authority to submit proposals within a specified time giving effect to the comprehensive principle. This would allow him to call for proposals if he felt that further progress was needed.

If he considered that proposals submitted by local authorities or governors were unsatisfactory, he would be able to call for further proposals to remedy deficiencies. The Bill would give him power if necessary to call for proposals from local authorities and voluntary schools and to indicate the unsatisfactory aspects of rejected proposals.

It would not empower him to substitute detailed alternatives to those rejected proposals. The power to design individual solutions for areas remained firmly in the hands of the local education authorities and the voluntary schools.

He did not propose to set a date by which comprehensive reorganization through the country would have to be completed. It was neither practical nor desirable to do so. Any such date would have to take account of the local authorities with the greatest technical and resource problems and would thus be much later than a reasonable date for many other local authorities.

Many authorities might feel that provided they got to that date they would be meeting the requirement and the consequence could be delay rather than an acceleration in the rate of reorganization. The timing of implementation would be an important part of the proposals he would ask to be submitted. He would expect the plans to make good educational sense.

If they did not, or it seemed that the plans submitted represented significantly slower progress than was feasible, he would not hesitate to point this out to proposers when rejecting them and require a fresh submission.

He would expect voluntary schools to submit realistic proposals they could afford. If they were not realistic, he would reject them and require fresh ones.

The Bill would place a duty on local education authorities and governors of voluntary schools to submit reorganization proposals at the request of the Secretary of State under the clause dealing with submission of proposals for giving effect to the comprehensive principle, in the form of the Section 13 proposals under the Education Act 1944.

When the proposals for any change of the character of a school had been approved by the Secretary of State, it should be the duty of the local education authority, or, in the case of a voluntary school, the managers or governors, to give effect to the proposals.

Clause 8 of the Bill was designed to revoke the present requirement of the 1971 Education Milk Act that the charge made to pupils for milk must cover the full economic cost of providing it. This was indefensible since it singled out milk as the only food or beverage about which local education authorities had no discretion as to the price they charged for supplying it. It required that they could only offer milk for sale in schools at a charge significantly higher than the retail price of milk delivered to the door.

The first step was to repeal these provisions. The second would be to make new regulations, after consultations with the local authorities, as to the extent and nature of the discretion they wished restored to them.

In present circumstances it was not intended to make mandatory the restoration of free milk to the children who lost it in 1971. It was unlikely that local education authorities would wish to supply milk free except perhaps in cases of hardship. The present milk and meals regulations would remain in force until replaced by new ones.

Repeal pledge by Conservatives

MR ST JOHN-STEVAS, Opposition spokesman on education (Chelmsford, C) said perhaps the most extraordinary thing about the Bill, which was negative, partisan, doctrinaire, unwanted, and destructive, was that it should have been introduced at this time when the education service was facing unprecedented problems.

The Bill embodied all the worst dogmatism of the socialist attitude to education. It was an insult to the intelligence of every parent and contemptuous of their anxieties. Parents wanted their children to have a disciplined and ordered learning environment in which they could learn to read, write, spell, add up and express themselves in good, clear English and to conform to the values and attitudes learnt in the home and built up for generations.

At a time when there was disillusion about the panacea of comprehensive schools, when confidence was sagging among educationists, the Government chose that [illegible] for every type of child within the maintained system.

Vitally important questions that would remain long after the Bill had been forgotten should have been examined. What was the right size for a comprehensive school? What was the right type of comprehensive school? What were the merits or demerits of the mixed ability class, and what was the place of streaming within the comprehensive school.

What would happen to those local education authorities which banded children into ability groups, as the Inner London Education Authority did, of below average, average and above average ability so that the banded children were not concentrated in a few schools? That authority had been advised by officials in the Department of Education that if the Bill became law those arrangements of banding would become illegal.

The Conservatives welcomed the scheme as a means of preventing bussing, which had been so disastrous in the United States. It would mean, if the interpretation was right, the creation in the middle of towns of wholly neighbourhood schools which would deprive the disadvantaged children in towns of the very opportunities they so desperately needed.

A further absurdity was that while Mr Mulley was busy outlawing selection in his Bill he was approving selection schemes in Essex. All that muddle had come about because Mr Mulley had ignored the warnings given to him that the law was likely, in the matter of delicate education structure, to get him nowhere fast.

The only certain result of the Bill would be a multiplication of botched up schemes and split site schools. What Mr Mulley is doing (he continued) is starting on bad principles and creating a legal morass in which he—and others less culpable—will flounder in for a long time to come.

What an indictment of Government educational priorities that they found time for this Bill while after a year MPs had still not even had one day to debate the most important postwar education report, the Bullock report, with its 330 proposals to improve literacy and learning in schools.

The Conservatives would repeal the Bill, which constituted a threat to liberty and learning.

MR FLANNERY (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab) said the vast majority of parents welcomed comprehensive education. The Bill was a major step on the road to the further democratization of the educational system.

SIR JOHN EDEN (Bournemouth, West, C) said the Bill was a product of blind ideology, was prejudiced, and served no educational purpose.

Refusing to sanction expenditure on buildings not forming part of a comprehensive scheme constituted nothing less than naked blackmail.

MR MAHON (Bootle, Lab) said the right of parents to educate their children according to their own religious belief must be maintained at all cost.

[illegible] the debate was about compulsion. Was it right for the Secretary of State to use compulsion to force unwilling local authorities to do what a duly and democratically elected government wanted them to do?

The answer had to be "Yes". If Parliament could not come to an overall blanket decision and ask people to implement it in their own areas he wondered what it was there for. If the Secretary of State wished to make selection illegal the Liberal Party would support this and join him in the lobby.

MR NOBLE (Rossendale, Lab) said the nub of the matter, and about which there was nothing in the Bill, concerned the use of schools as institutions for allocating children to the occupational labour force. Nothing was said about the internal organization of schools, the streaming and selection. Reorganization had been a massive confidence trick. The old division remained and the disadvantaged remained disadvantaged.

MR VAN STRAUBENZEE (Wokingham, C) said some of his colleagues would not agree, but many Tory parents deeply resented selection of their children at an early age. Mr Boyson should include in his speech from the front bench encouragement to the large numbers of Conservative voters who taught in and administered or were parents of children in successful comprehensive schools as well as those which had grave problems. He should make clear that the next Tory Government, as part of its responsibilities, would want to sustain, and to understand the problems of comprehensive and other schools in difficult areas.

MR MONTGOMERY (Altrincham and Sale, C) said it was not Bills and circulars which promoted educational progress, nor the changing of the name of a school. Resources and careful planning were more important.

MR CARLISLE (Runcorn, C) said the neighbourhood comprehensive, which was in fact what the Bill created, was in many ways more socially divisive than the system it replaced.

MR TUCK (Watford, Lab) said that as a former public school pupil he was strongly committed to the principle of comprehensive schools firmly enshrined in the Bill. The minister should be on guard against insidious attempts to infiltrate the grammar school principle by the back door when Parliament had turned it out at the front door.

MR WATKINSON (West Gloucestershire, Lab) said the Opposition wanted a selective, competitive system for the rest of society but they wanted to provide for themselves a system which removed that selection.

MR BOYSON, an Opposition spokesman on education (Brent, North, C) said the Conservatives admitted that choice had been limited but there was at least some. Now it would be destroyed.

The Times had said in a leading article on the Bill that an armistice should have been offered, but unconditional surrender was demanded. We need a healing [illegible] together and see what are the problems. Instead, we have a highwayman's gun for unconditional surrender.

The Conservatives would repeal the Bill when they came to power, if it had by then been passed. They had six reasons: they were concerned about standards in working class areas for the deprived child; there was no proof all over the country or in other countries which had tried the experiment that the system caused improvement; there was no mention of parental choice; because they believed in local option; because they believed in minority rights.

Their final reason was that education, like so much in Britain needed some peace to sort itself out before they decided where they were going.

MISS JOAN LESTOR, Under Secretary for Education and Science (Eton and Slough, Lab) said that bribery of parents to get their children through the 11-plus, and the methods used by some independent schools to get children to pass an examination, distorted all that many dedicated primary school teachers had tried to do for a comprehensive system of primary education.

Eton college was in her constituency. It was not comprehensive in terms of social intake, but it was in terms of ability intake. It was a large school; yet she had never heard any Opposition MP who went to that school condemn it because of its size.

In other words (she said) what is important is the organization of the school and how it is administered, not its size.

If I stand here tonight (she said) with my gently waved hair, thin trace of lipstick and multicoloured dress, I hope I look like a woman who wishes to change education in this country. (Opposition protests and shouts of "Cheap".) This is what my colleagues and I intend to do.

The Bill was read a second time by 296 votes to 255—Government majority, 41.

Building society loans on houses

During questions to [illegible] tary of State for the [illegible] about his consultations [illegible] ing societies about [illegible] lending on older prope[illegible]

MR HOOLEY (Sheffi[illegible] Lab) said—There is so[illegible] in Sheffield that buildi[illegible] are drawing arbitrary [illegible] which they will not len[illegible] properties; for examp[illegible] regard it as being in a[illegible] area. The Secretary of [illegible] remind the building s[illegible] they certainly have a [illegible] responsibility, but [illegible] responsibility as well.

MR CROSLAND—I [illegible] there is the type of [illegible] which Mr Hooley r[illegible] Building Societies' Ass[illegible] the Local Authorities' [illegible] had a constructive di[illegible] January 30 about probl[illegible] this and the meeting [illegible] would set up a joint w[illegible] of officers to advise th[illegible] ters like this

MR MICHAEL MORI[illegible] ampton, South, C)—Th[illegible] aside by the building s[illegible] local authorities is n[illegible] Will he therefore ask [illegible] authorities to underwrit[illegible] gage cases they send [illegible] the building societies?

MR CROSLAND—T[illegible] met with a number of [illegible] culties, but it is incorre[illegible] is not working. It is wo[illegible] better than it was th[illegible] ago. Because there are [illegible] dual difficulties about t[illegible] the building societies [illegible] authorities have agreed [illegible] joint working party to [illegible] attempt to iron out t[illegible] lems.

MR DYKES (Harrow[illegible] In the near future does h[illegible] meeting of the Building [illegible] Association and individ[illegible] ties to discuss a reduction [illegible] gage rates in view of the [illegible] in interest rates?

MR CROSLAND—We a[illegible] tinuous consultation [illegible] building societies on all [illegible] the housing market, but [illegible] plans to meet them on th[illegible] ular subject.

MR EDWIN WAIN[illegible] (Dearne Valley, Lab)—W[illegible] his influence upon the [illegible] societies to make them re[illegible] many of those purchasing [illegible] property are young people [illegible] married life. We ought [illegible] them instead of driving [illegible] the finance companies[illegible]

MR CROSLAND—These [illegible] people we all most want [illegible] but the position is that [illegible] more overlap between [illegible] society and local authority [illegible] gage lending than probabl[illegible] people have supposed. [illegible] anxious to maintain local a[illegible] lending at a level such tha[illegible] be able to cope with the c[illegible] which Mr Wainwright has m[illegible] leaving building societies [illegible] over more cases where in[illegible] there has been a complete [illegible] between the two types of l[illegible]

Road signs to warn drivers about children

MR HALL-DAVIS (M[illegible] and Lonsdale, C) asked t[illegible] tary of State for the En[illegible] to introduce a road sign to [illegible] that a length of road is [illegible] footpath and is substanti[illegible] by schoolchildren who a[illegible] to walk in the roadway.

MR GILBERT, Mini[illegible] Transport—I shall be h[illegible] consider the suggestion.

MR HALL-DAVIS—Th[illegible] three separate signs indic[illegible] a motorist may encount[illegible] and ponies, cattle or wild [illegible] on the road ahead. It seem[illegible] out of balance in our [illegible] that there should not be [illegible] sign indicating that child[illegible] be in the roadway ahead.

MR GILBERT—There [illegible] indicating the presence o[illegible] and children crossing. [illegible] suggestion is constructive. [illegible] to introduce provisional s[illegible] test them out.

Green Paper on consumer safety

MR ALAN WILLIAMS, [illegible] of State for Prices and C[illegible] Protection, in a written re[illegible] A consultative document [illegible] sumer safety which discu[illegible] sible ways of strengthen[illegible] improving the present l[illegible] administrative arrangeme[illegible] be published on a Green P[illegible] February 17.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Debates on d[illegible] cations in Wales and on the [illegible] economy. Motions on NHS [illegible] and Remission of Charges Re[illegible]

House of Lords

Today at 3.00: Licensing Am[illegible] Bill, third reading. Endangered [illegible] Bill, second reading. Rating ([illegible] Sites) Bill, report stage. D[illegible] EEC committee report on E[illegible] price review.

Spain and Greece agenda

MR HATTERSLEY, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Birmingham, Sparkbrook, Lab) in a statement about business to be taken in the Council of Ministers of the European Community during February, said: At present five meetings of the Council of Ministers are proposed for February. Foreign ministers will meet on February 9-10; agriculture ministers on February 16 and 17 and possibly 18, and on 23-24; finance ministers on February 16 and research ministers on February 24, although the date has yet to be confirmed. An energy council may be held before the end of February.

At the foreign affairs council ministers will consider the work put in hand following the conference on international economic co-operation. Ministers will also consider tropical products in the context of the multilateral trade negotiations; external lending of the European Investment Bank; the Commission's formal opinion on Greek accession and the Community's relations with Spain. Ministers are expected to approve the agreements recently negotiated with the Maghreb countries. Direct elections may also be on the agenda, but there is not expected to be any substantive discussion.

Agriculture ministers will continue their discussions on common agricultural policy prices for 1976-77 and on measures for improving the Community wine market.

Finance ministers will resume discussion of the joint Community borrowing scheme and may also discuss Euratom loans for nuclear power stations.

At the research council, ministers will consider proposals for a five-year Community research programme in controlled thermonuclear fusion and plasma physics including the Joint European torus (JET).

Greater equity in railway fares an[illegible]

MR RONALD LEWIS (Carlisle, Lab) asked what consultations the Secretary of State for the Environment proposed to have with the leaders of the railway trade unions about the future level of investment in the railway industry.

MR CROSLAND (Grimsby, Lab)—The consultations I have announced will certainly cover the investment in the railway industry.

MR LEWIS—Can he confirm, or reveal, that British Rail have been advised that investment is to be held at £238m during the coming years, and will he meet the railway trade unions in the near future to discuss this vital aspect?

MR CROSLAND—What he says about the level of investment is correct.

As to meeting the railway unions, I have had one meeting before Christmas. Since then I have met the TUC transport industries committee and have made it clear to the TUC and to the individual unions that in the process of consultation I shall hope to have further meetings with them.

MR DURANT (Reading, North, C)—When will he be able to reveal the results of his discussions because there is widespread interest among commuters in my constituency and among the railway men in my area? When are we going to get some answers?

MR CROSLAND—I hope in the next few weeks we shall issue a consultation document, then embark on a full process of consultation with a view later in the year to issuing a statement, whether as a White Paper or in some other form, on Government policy.

MR BAGIER (Sunderland, South, Lab)—Will he confirm that the consultative document is not in the form of a White Paper or Green Paper but is a genuine consultative document? To say firmly at this stage £238m a year for the next five years will bring a situation which the three rail unions have tried to warn the public about.

MR CROSLAND—The paper to be published in the next few weeks will be a consultative document in the true meaning of the word. I do not accept the view that has been put forward by the railway unions as to what the consequences of this kind of investment will be.

MR NORMAN FOWLER, Opposition spokesman on transport (Sutton Coldfield, C)—Will he give an assurance that any fare increases are equitably spread and that there will be no question of discriminating against the commuter?

MR CROSLAND—The whole object of the transport policy review is to try and bring a greater degree of equity into what is now a transport policy fundamentally in a state of complete confusion.

MR FORD (Bradford, North, Lab) later asked what representations had been received by his department about the future of railway services.

MR GILBERT, Minister for Transport (Dudley, East, Lab)—We have in recent weeks received over 20,000 representations about the future of the railways. The vast majority of these have been in the form of tear-off slips bearing identical wording.

MR CHANNON (Southend, West, C)—Would he not agree, even in advance of the Government's paper, that if there were to be any prospect of commuter fares going up by 40 or 50 per cent as has been rumoured, this would cause great hardship to tens of thousands of people?

MR GILBERT—There are difficult questions of balancing equities involved in doing anything to restore the finances of British Rail. It is beyond question that in certain parts of the country a major proportion of the subsidy to keep fares down does go to the better off sections of the community.

MR ROBIN COOK (Edinburgh, Central, Lab) asked what estimates had been made of the likely size of the rail network and the quality of its services based on a five-year investment level of £238m.

MR GILBERT—I have no evidence that stabilizing investment at about its present level—the highest for many years—need cause massive reductions in either the present railway network or quality of service.

MR McCRINDLE (Brentwood and Ongar, C)—Will he confirm or deny reports that, with a view to encouraging the transfer of goods from road to rail, substantial additional taxes are anticipated on road transport? As some goods cannot be carried other than by road, to do so would raise living costs.

MR GILBERT—The consultative document will address itself to the proposition in the *Socialist Commentary* booklet on transport policy, that all transport modes should carry their full cost, including their social and environmental costs.

MR WALTER JOHNSON (Derby, South, Lab)—The rail unions and the Railways Board regard the Secretary of State's proposed present level of investment as insufficient to carry out the necessary modernization. If this is continued for a further five years, it can result only in a reduction in the rail network.

MR GILBERT—Rail investment is higher than at any time since the mid-60s in real terms after allowing for inflation. Other support for railways is also running at historically high levels after allowing for inflation.

All we have asked the railways to do is to cut the deficit on freight account. There has been no request yet to reduce the deficit, running at historically record levels, on passenger traffic.

Planning appeals

MR JOHN SILKIN, Minister for Planning and Local Government, said that 11,486 planning appeals were decided during 1975—3,078 following local inquiries and 8,408 by the written procedure.

Racing levy scheme announcement will be made shortly

House of Lords

Lord Winstanley, formerly Dr Michael Winstanley, Liberal MP for Cheadle and later Hazel Grove, was introduced.

LORD CRAWSHAW (C), opening a debate on the horseracing industry, said that racing's special contribution to Britain's international status, domestic heritage, employment and the large amount of money accruing to the Exchequer, were at stake. Unless something drastic was done it would be impossible for British people, suffering the present high rates of taxation, to be able to have a horse in training.

In 1975 the average horse, after winning the average amount of prize money, cost its owner £3,000 a year to keep.

If racing was to prosper, and those involved were to be fairly rewarded, he and a great many other people felt there must be a substantial increase in prize money which would percolate down through the industry. He would like to see £10m a year put into racing.

VISCOUNT LEVERHULME (C), senior steward of the Jockey Club, in a maiden speech, said the prime duty of the club, the day-to-day task which occupied its nine stewards and 150 men and women who served them, was the administration of the rules of racing.

The Jockey Club, when considering what its role should be today, felt that it had an important part to play in coordinating and reconciling the varying views and opinions of all those whose livelihood and interest was racing.

LORD HOY (Lab) said the industry was facing the same problem as every other industry, inflation. But the rewards at the end were not matching the increased costs. There should be more prize money and the Government should be asked what contribution it could make. The weekly training fee was £35 a horse.

LORD GRIMTHORPE (C), in a maiden speech, said the betting tax on race courses should be increased from 4 to 4.5 per cent, and in betting shops from 8.5 to 9.5 per cent. This could raise an additional £15m to £20m, which would provide a vital shot in the arm for the industry.

The money generated by horse racing was in the bookmaker's satchel, the betting shop, and the totalisator.

LORD TREVETHIN and OAKSEY, racing commentator and former jockey, said in Britain the Government collected about £100m in betting tax a year while racing, through the levy, received less than £10m back.

The Jockey Club should maintain discipline and integrity in racing and the Levy Board should be modified so that it would properly represent those who made their living out of racing.

The EARL of HALIFAX (C), in a maiden speech, said that at recent bloodstock sales 80 per cent of the bloodlines were bought by foreign currency.

We have (he said) the best bloodlines in the world but if the best are leaving these shores to find more profitable conditions abroad, racing in England will sink to the level of a gymkhana in some distant land. We cannot afford to ignore one of our most valuable assets and treasures.

LORD KILMANY (C) said that from some points of view the racing scene was good. For example, on the question of law and order, it was a fact that no more police were required at a racecourse now than 10 years ago.

LORD WESTBURY (C), in a maiden speech, said the administration of racing was sound; the problem was finance. If racing was to survive it must continue to hold the interest of the public in good horses while providing adequate rewards for those professionally engaged in it. A reasonable level of prize money was vital.

LADY MACLEOD of BORVE said horseracing had been known as the sport of kings but was becoming an industry and sport for all the people.

VISCOUNT MASSEREENE and FERRAND (C) said that if the Government topped up their contribution to the industry from taxation of £7m a year by another £7m it would not break them. It would be (he said) a far better bet than Chrysler. The Government will not get anything out of their investment there.

LORD WIGG (Ind) said all they had heard was a rattling of tin cans for more money. Instead of that speakers should have been counting their blessings. There was no other sport in Britain today that got between £8m and £9m. The money should be spent honestly in the public interest, but that was not happening.

The Tote should be handed over to the bookmakers, who would run it efficiently. If a way was needed to make money quickly for the industry, It was possible to bet for cash in Britain wherever a punter happened to be. For better or worse that was only possible under the bookmaker system.

There was no case for increasing the levy by a single penny at present.

The EARL of MANSFIELD (C), for the Opposition, said the industry was in the position not so much of a lame duck as a sick goose. It was in everybody's interests that it should continue to lay golden eggs. If the industry was to prosper the community must see to it that the conditions existed for it to flourish. It was undergoing a period where it had to face grave problems which could only be resolved with the enlightened assistance of the Government.

LADY STEDMAN, Baroness in Waiting, said the present state of horseracing was a matter of wide public interest and concern. It had become not only a major spectator sport but an important industry employing thousands of people.

The Government had recently announced the establishment of the Royal Commission on Gambling under Lord Rothschild. They hoped to announce the names of the members in the not-too-distant future. The commission would be asking some fundamental questions. They were charged with tackling the basic issues of gambling and its interface with sport.

They had been asked to provide an interim report on the possibility of a levy on the football pools or other means of giving financial assistance to sport.

The Levy Board were fully aware of the crucial importance of prize money for all sections of the industry. In the board's view there was a need to increase prize money still further and this was one reason why a dispute which had arisen between the Levy Board and the bookmakers' committee had been formally referred to the Home Secretary (Mr Roy Jenkins).

There was an urgent need for the determination of the levy scheme and this the Home Secretary hoped to do shortly.

Arrangements had been made for a proposal for a Racing Consultative Council to be fully examined by a working group of officials, including official representatives of the racing industry, under the chairmanship of the Home Office.

The Minister for Sport (Mr Denis Howell) had been disappointed by the length of time taken by the Jockey Club to consider his proposal, put to the club in April, 1974, for the setting up of a Racing Council.

Last week—20 months later—Lord Leverhulme informed the minister that the Jockey Club saw no advantage or virtue for racing in such a proposal.

House adjourned, 8.40 pm.

£500 Premium Bond prizewinners

The £500 winners in the February Premium Bond draw are:

AZ 859897
2 AB 835102
2 AL 454736
4 AK 399566
4 AN 855053
5 AL 409559
5 AW 925344
1 BL 816136
2 BK 820120
2 BN 436130
2 BS 325929
3 BN 822716
3 HP 817405
3 BW 875803
4 BN 051034
5 BB 859134
6 BL 807790
6 BN 660120
6 BN 831606
6 BN 913005
6 BT 683930
6 BZ 778508
7 BF 637201
7 BN 063531
1 CN 300315
1 CT 149097
2 CS 705896
2 CT 953253
DZ 490697
2 DF 113634
2 DW 944819
3 DB 609609
3 DF 660140
3 DF 919917
3 DK 010391
4 DB 906213
4 DX 105572
4 DS 271857
4 DS 732474
5 DB 430039
5 DL 099284
5 DP 207064
5 DW 723149
5 DB 041780
6 DN 370958
EL 874891
1 EF 705305
2 EW 396010
3 EW 920541
3 EF 937817
3 EW 375177
4 EF 404636
4 EN 366729
4 EW 497098
5 EF 910381
5 EF 966508
5 EL 860742
5 ET 446477
7 ET 832298
1 FB 565551
1 FS 829397
1 FW 735062
2 FB 775449

2 FK 008495
3 FL 663859
3 FS 619302
4 FK 059038
4 FL 986075
4 FS 385177
5 FF 279713
6 FK 114741
5 FN 256472
5 FP 567225
1 HP 338860
3 HB 190192
3 HS 072619
4 HP 916026
5 HZ 621134
1 JP 875718
2 JK 099687
4 JP 971167
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5 JT 377485
7 JN 433077
8 JB 640949
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KN 831676
KT 273527
KZ 385195
1 KS 124910
1 KS 954958
3 KN 911180
3 KN 635590
3 KN 902784
4 KF 276281
4 KT 162774
4 KW 746672
4 KZ 780527
5 KB 833484
5 KF 126638
5 KN 425591
6 KP 643243
6 KP 866734
6 KB 884535
6 KS 764221
6 KT 638663
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8 KN 710042
8 KZ 830822
9 KB 644823
9 KT 697499
9 KN 636551
1 LF 675099
2 LB 661291
2 LN 438675
3 LP 016885
3 LB 451499
3 LT 060450
3 LZ 426114
4 LL 848231
5 LB 308240

5 LF 361616
5 LL 885578
5 LW 197284
5 LZ 619392
6 LB 048205
6 LK 892855
6 LT 130610
6 LT 236724
7 LN 487844
7 LW 585898
7 LZ 840553
8 LP 315950
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8 LZ 438076
9 LB 411855
9 LL 309116
9 LL 764938
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1 NT 684390
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1 NZ 306873
2 NF 017173
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1 PS 173549
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4 PP 260548
4 PP 917623
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4 PT 938315
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5 PZ 035105
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7 PP 010045
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8 PZ 445214
9 PP 432040
9 PS 448825

9 PS 829377
9 PZ 131670
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1 QT 113401
1 QZ 824329
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5 QL 737318
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5 QW 087959
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7 QW 328707
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8 QS 964589
8 QZ 751845
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9 QK 902502
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9 QS 184463
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7 RZ 088511
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8 RK 301080
8 RL 669248
8 RP 622831
8 RP 043945
8 RS 030801
8 RZ 768051
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1 XB 218055
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...slovakia of 1948", he declared. "No party or group of parties can legislate for the others or propose universal recipes." But this did not mean any weakening of solidarity with other communist parties.

His reactions to the press conference yesterday of the dissident Soviet mathematician, Mr Leonid Plyushch, were awaited with interest. He did not refer to him by name, but insisted that the French Communist Party could not tolerate "that the communist ideal be sullied by unjust or unjustified acts.

"One must always be on one's guard against the temptation to substitute for democratic confrontation and the battle of ideas the facilities of authority and repression."

In the struggle for socialism, nothing in the present age and in France could be substituted for "the popular will of the majority democratically expressed through struggle and universal suffrage".

The power which would lead to the socialist transformation of society was the power of the working class, and other categories of workers. The union of the French people was "an essential element of communist strategy". It meant the alliance with the working class of all salaried classes, engineers, technicians, and white collar workers, farmers, intellectuals, artisans, shopkeepers and even small and medium employers—who need have no fear for their property in a socialist France—as well as Christians.

But the Communist Party, he made it clear to his Socialist allies, must retain the leadership of the working class. "The Socialist Party", he said pointedly, "would revert to the policy of class collaboration if it dominated the Left".

M Marchais had begun his speech with a sombre picture of France "where more than 16 million workers live in poverty". The crisis was not only economic, but social, political, ideological and moral.

Protest vigil by Spanish priest 'until amnesty'

From Richard Wigg
Barcelona, Feb 4

If Spain's political prisoners are freed in the coming months a 43-year-old Roman Catholic priest, Lluis Maria Xirinacs from Catalonia, will have been one of the chief instruments for bringing public pressure to bear on the Government.

I found him yesterday outside Barcelona's model prison, maintaining a protest vigil from nine in the morning till nine at night on behalf of the more than 100 political prisoners inside. He has been there every day since Christmas.

Dressed in an anorak, high-necked pullover, corduroys and boots and sitting on the pavement, he told me quietly but firmly that he would persist "until there is an amnesty, which must be without condition".

Every now and again people come up, handing hot drinks or food to the priest and any young sympathizers who join him.

Three hundred Spanish intellectuals and leaders in their various professions, impressed by this vigil which comes after repeated hunger strikes for human rights in Spain, have now just proposed Xirinacs—he does not like any title—as candidate for this year's Nobel peace prize. He was also a candidate last year but the prize went to the Soviet scientist and human rights fighter, Dr Andrei Sakharov.

In the early days of his vigil police repeatedly picked up the priest, dumping him far from the city centre. Later they watched as youths from an extreme right-wing group "Gas" provoked incidents with sympathizers on the pavement and painted slogans "Xiri for the firing squad". But for the past week things have been quiet since a group of prominent Barcelona citizens, who admired the priest, intervened with the civil governor.

Xirinacs has captured the limelight amid innumerable petitions coming from all sectors, because Spanish public opinion has seized on the amnesty issue as an immediate test of the sincerity of the Government's democratization programme. The Government is distinguishing between crimes of opinion and outright terrorist violence.

"There must be a total amnesty wiping the slate clean", Father Xirinacs told me. "Otherwise, there is a risk of violence starting up again. At the moment guerrilla groups like ETA and FRAP are waiting. They have told me: 'Let us hope that your method will succeed.'

"I realize in Britain, where politics proceed by devolution, the Government's distinction would seem reasonable. But in Spain, where the wounds of the civil war are still not healed, there must be this clean sweep. Big wrongs must have big solutions. It shows a lack of political vision by the Government not to understand this."

According to the Government there are now "more or less" 500 political prisoners in Spain. But the democratic opposition estimates there are still some 1,800 behind bars only 10 per cent having been yet freed and not 50 per cent as the Government says.



Father Xirinacs keeps vigil outside Barcelona Model Prison where more than 100 political prisoners are held.

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Sierra Leone diplomat is arrested

Haarlem, Feb 4.—Dutch police detained a Sierra Leone diplomat on suspicion of drug smuggling after airport customs officers found an estimated 2.5m guilders (£450,000) worth of heroin in his suitcase, according to the public prosecutor here today.

He said the heroin haul of about 55lb was the biggest ever made in Holland and would cumor added that the diplomat, named as John Olatungi Thomas, was detained on Sunday evening when he arrived at Amsterdam airport on a flight from Hongkong by way of Bangkok. He has not been formally charged.

Jobless Basques injured in demonstration

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Feb 4

Twenty workers and a policeman were injured during a demonstration yesterday in the Basque city of Vitoria, it was learnt in Madrid today. Police fired tear gas bombs into a crowd of 5,000 who were shouting: "We want work."

...workers marched through the streets after holding a meeting in a church. A dozen firms in the city are closed as a result of labour disputes. There were stoppages today by civil servants in Madrid.

There, more than 3,000 people, including well-known non-establishment politicians, have signed a letter which was delivered today to the Captain General of the 1st Military Region, asking that the imminent trial of nine officers should be held in public. The officers have been charged with sedition, allegedly for their ...the Army.

The military authorities will ask for prison sentences ranging from four years to 12 years, according to the officers' wives. The Madrid College of Lawyers has written to the supreme military judicial review council objecting to the decision not to allow civilian lawyers to defend the officers.

Among those willing to appear for the defence is Professor Joaquin Ruiz Gimenez, the Christian Democrat leader. Military authorities say that as the charges are of a purely military nature, civilian lawyers Professor Ruiz Gimenez and an industrial engineer £800 each without trial for holding a press conference in connexion with the demonstration. Both are members of the coordinating committee of the illegal Democratic Junta and Platform of Democratic Convergence.

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present levels until 1980 at least. They also left the door open for further continued supplies of New Zealand cheese after 1977, when present arrangements for both butter and cheese are due to expire.

The European Commission has subsequently tabled plans that would allow Britain to import an average of 121,000 tons of butter between 1978 and 1980, with annual quotas falling from 129,000 tons in the first year to 113,000 tons in the last. These suggestions have evoked little enthusiasm among member governments.

Mr Talboys's optimism about an early settlement of the butter question is not shared by many EEC agricultural officials. They point out that the Dutch and Danes have already questioned the Commission's proposals on the ground that their acceptance would give the New Zealanders an increasing share of the British butter market.

This is based on the view that, as butter consumption in Britain falls with each successive price increase, Dutch and Danish butter will gradually be squeezed out of the market, while New Zealand retains guaranteed access

Mr Tindemans will clarify 'two-speed' Europe idea

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, Feb 4

Mr Tindemans, the Belgian Prime Minister, is to make his first public reply here tomorrow to criticism of his recently published report on European union, which he feels has been misinterpreted both in the international press and by some European Community governments.

The occasion will be his address to the Congress of Europe which begins a three-day meeting in Brussels tomorrow on the initiative of the European Movement, an organization embracing a variety of non-governmental associations working for the greater unity of the Continent.

Mr Tindemans is expected to take up particularly the criticism of that part of his report which appears to advocate a two-speed approach towards economic and monetary union, allowing those EEC countries no economic difficulties, like Britain and Italy, to proceed at a slower pace.

Last month, Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, expressed his "own serious doubts" about this approach, arguing that it "could eventually end in the break-up of the Community". M. Francois-Xavier Ortoli, President of the European Commission, and Sir Christopher Soames, a vice-president, have voiced similar fears.

Mr Tindemans is likely to assure the congress that far from proposing an institutionalization of the present gap between Britain, Italy and Ireland and the rest of the EEC, his aim is to make it easier for the slower ships in the convoy to catch up in the end.

Among the other speakers due to address the congress is Herr Willy Brandt, the former West German Chancellor, from whom Mr Tindemans is widely thought to have borrowed the two-speed concept. Certainly, Herr Brandt advanced a very similar idea in late 1974 and ran into much the same kind of criticism as the Belgian Prime Minister.

The congress has been called to discuss the proposals outlined in the Tindemans' report on European Union, which was commissioned by EEC heads of government and will be debated by them for the first time at their next summit meeting in Luxembourg on April 1 and 2. EEC member governments are not expected to react officially before then.

Film director in hospital after arrest

Stockholm, Feb 4.—Mr Ingmar Bergman, the Swedish film director, is in hospital suffering from a nervous breakdown after being accused of tax evasion.

Mr Bergman, who is 57, was arrested by police last Friday during rehearsal of an August Strindberg drama in Stockholm and later charged with evading payment of 523,000 kronor (about £57,000)

A spokesman for the Karolinska Hospital said: "We can confirm reports that Mr Bergman has been treated here since yesterday for a nervous condition." Swedish newspapers quoted the director's friends as saying that Mr Bergman's illness "is a direct consequence of the police action last week". If convicted, he faces a maximum sentence of two years in prison.—UPI.

Cologne cathedral to have protective spray

Düsseldorf, Feb 4.—Cologne cathedral, the largest Gothic building in West Germany, is to be sprayed with a chemical to protect it against further environmental damage. The spray will protect the stonework for 20 years.—Reuter.

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Good omens for Schmidt visit to London

By Roger Berthoud

The omens seem good for the London visit of Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, who arrives tomorrow evening. His first task is to address a Foreign Affairs Club dinner on the theme "Prospects for Europe."

On Saturday, at Chequers, he will have talks and a working luncheon with Mr Wilson. Herr Genscher, his Foreign Minister, and Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, will also attend the talks. The main themes are likely to be the international and domestic economic situation; the EEC defence and the cod war.

The row between Herr Schmidt and Mr Wilson at the Rome meeting of the European Council over Britain's attitude to the Paris energy conference seems to have blown over, perhaps leaving a residue of scepticism about Britain's attitude towards the EEC. This may have been dissipated by Mr Callaghan's rather positive speech on Europe in Hamburg

The trickiest issue is likely to be defence. Herr Schmidt will be anxious to sound out Mr Wilson about the Labour Government's proposed defence cuts. Mr Wilson is expected to reassure him that these will not affect the Rhine Army, though Bonn considers all cuts undesirable in view of the Soviet Union's growing global military power.

More delicate is the renewal, or non-renewal, of the 1971-76 "offset" agreement, expiring on March 21, under which Bonn contributed DM110m (£22m) a year towards the foreign exchange costs of the Rhine Army. The Germans dislike these agreements, which smack of post-war occupation, and are a constant irritant in bilateral relations. Herr Schmidt has told his colleagues that he is handling this problem himself, and Mr Wilson will have to convince him first that a new agreement is really necessary, then that it should give real relief and, thirdly, that it should be negotiated by a fixed deadline.

Portuguese workers insist on returning firm to owner

From Michael Knipe
Lisbon, Feb 4

One of Portugal's biggest textile firms is being handed back to its original owner at the request of its employees, numbering about 2,500. The firm, Manuel Gonçalves Textiles, was one of scores taken over by the Government at the high point of communist dominance last year.

Control of the complex, which is Portugal's eighth biggest exporter of textiles, was vested in an administrative committee comprising mostly workers and three pro-communist outsiders appointed by the Government.

As in so many cases, the communists had gained control of the firm largely as a result of their superior organization, developed during their underground years during the Salazar and Caetano regimes.

As disillusionment set in at the factory during the post-coup period, the workers complained that their union leaders had elected themselves. They proceeded to organize new elections, section by section. In each one the communists were thrown out.

In December the newly elected union leaders staged a general meeting which, with a vote of 2,500 to 40, called on the Government to return the company to its original owner. The workers threatened to strike unless he returned, and sent delegations to the Government to press their case.

Senhor Manuel Gonçalves himself said he was prepared to return from abroad and resume control on condition that the 17 communist ringleaders were suspended from the administrative committee. The trade union leadership supported him and the 17 were suspended.

The Government has now issued a decree ordering the disbanding of the administrative committee "after considering the insistent demands of the workers" for state intervention to be halted. The decree said that any previous dismissals in the complex would not be recognized.

OVERSEAS

Angolans in Luanda celebrate 15th anniversary of their first attempt to challenge colonial rule

From Nicholas Ashford
Luanda, Feb 4

Tens of thousands of Angolans took to the streets of Luanda in blazing sunshine today to celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of the beginning of the armed struggle against the Portuguese.

The highlight of the celebrations was a parade along the waterfront boulevard, now named "4th of February Avenue", led by Soviet-made tanks, armoured cars and rocket launchers. A squadron of five MiG 21 jets in V-formation swooped low over the city repeatedly, giving an impressive display of the leftist regime's newly acquired air power.

The anniversary was used as an occasion for socialist countries to reaffirm their solidarity with the Popular Movement (MPLA), which set itself up as the Government of the People's Republic of Angola when the country became independent from Portugal in November.

Public messages of support, together with the now customary condemnations of the two pro-Western movements and their South African allies, were delivered by many of the delegates who have been attending a special meeting of the pro-Soviet Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization in Luanda.

The Popular Movement clearly feels it is now winning both diplomatic as well as military battles. Dr Luis de Almeida, its director of information, told delegates attending the parade that next summer's summit meeting of the Organization of African Unity in Mauritius would finally recognize the MPLA as the legitimate government of Angola.

Twenty-five of the OAU's 46 members now support the MPLA, three more than at last month's OAU summit in Addis Ababa when the organization was split down the middle on the Angolan question.

On February 4, 15 years ago, a crowd of Africans from Luanda's *musseques* (shanty and machetes, attacked the capital's Sao Paulo prison in an attempt to release political prisoners before they were shipped to Portugal or executed.

The attack was a failure. About 40 people were killed in the raid and, during the following days, thousand were slaughtered as a result of Portuguese reprisals. The attack, howeverl marked tht beginning of a long colonial war which was largely responsible for the 1974 Portuguese revolution and the subsequent withdrawal from America.

The celebrations started at the prison, where about 350 veterans of the attack, dressed in black uniforms and carrying knives that were used in the raid, together with former prisoners, attended an unveiling of a plaque to commemorate the event. The eighteenth-century prison is to be turned into a museum, but convicts are still held there.

Later there was a ceremony at one of Luandas main cemeteries where President Agostinho Neto laid a stone marking the tomb of the unknown warrior.

The parade itself was more a display of civilian enthusiam than military might. Groups oo women, swathed inthe MPLA's black, red and yellow colours, marched along slowly, intoning party songs rythmically. Platoons of small children (known as pioneers), some of them in T shirts, others in an assortment of military garb, performed drill movements under the instructions of teenage commanders.

By contrast the slow, goose-stepping march of the regular soldiers seemed rather commonplace and the Army band's performance of the new Angolan national anthem was excruciatingly bad.

The relatively small amount of military equipment on display bore no relations to the huge quantities of sophisticated Soviet-made armaments that were being unloaded from Russian and Cuban vessels in the port, just a few hundred yards away from where the parade was taking place.

The MPLA's Russian and Cuban military assistants were conspicuous by their absence, from the parade, which was exclusively an Angolan affair. However, groups of Cuban soldiers coul dbe seen mingling with the crowds and President Neto was accompanied by a Cuban bodyguard whose had remained permanently in his pistol butt.

Swedish Premier speaks up for the MPLA

From Our Correspondent
Stockholm, Feb 4

Mr Olof Palme, the Swedish Prime Minister, today denounced as a "propagandist simplification" mass media depictions of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola as Marxist, pro-Soviet or communist. In a signed newspaper article, he said the MPLA "does not differ much from other liberation movements which have long been established and accepted in the West".

Western diplomatic sources said Mr Palme's article, which appeared in today's editions of the independent Stockholm newspaper *Dagens Nyheter*, was a major foreign policy statement expressing Swedish anger at allegations that the MPLA ...

"Historically speaking, Marxism has had very little influence on African socialism", Mr Palme wrote. Until this year, the communists in the MPLA had been a very small minority. "The movement has tried vainly to buy weapons from the West for their fight against Portugal", he said. "The answer was 'no'. Then they turned to the Soviet Union, which said 'yes'.

"But there is hardly a state in Africa that, after having received substantial Soviet assistance, has become a Soviet satellite."

Referring to years of talking to African insurgent leaders, Mr Palme said that capitalism as well as communism "seems to them to be entirely irrelevant; theories foreign to African tradition". African socialism often had a deep strain of Christianity as many of the leaders had received their basic education in mission schools.

"It is important to remember that the war in Angola is not being waged between 'the free world' and 'communism'; that it must not be judged on the basis of clichés from the cold war, nor seen in the context of the global controversies of the great powers", he said.

"Basically, it is a continuation of the long struggle for liberation that started 15 years ago."

Mr Palme ... Swedish foreign aid, budgeted this year at 60m kronor (about £7m). The Prime Minister rejected suggestions by some Swedish opposition leaders that this aid should be withdrawn or reduced.

"It is perilous to use development assistance as an instrument of sudden punishment or reward, to be wielded when we disapprove or approve of different elements in the foreign policy of recipient countries", Mr Palme said.

Swedish reprisals against Cuba "would be regarded as typical of the desire of a rich, white nation to teach the Third World a lesson".

15 British mercenaries are wounded in fighting

By Stewart Tendler

As the latest contingent of British mercenaries bound for the Angolan war prepared to leave Britain last night the Foreign Office announced that 15 men from earlier parties had been wounded in the fighting.

During the day up to 100 men, recruited by Security Advisory Services, a Camberley firm, waited in hiding places in London and near Gatwick airport for flights to Brussels and Kinshasa in Zaire. Their involvement was strongly attacked in a fresh statement from the Government.

Mr David Ennals, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said it should be understood abroad that "these foolhardy men are acting in defiance of British Government policy". He added: "The presence of those who sell their killing power for money is more likely to prolong the conflict.

"It is time this dangerous nonsense stopped. Some of those who went to Angola last week have already returned with hair-raising stories of mismanagement, lack of training and discipline and financial confusion", Mr Ennals said.

The Foreign Office added that 15 men were now in hospital in Kinshasa, the mercenary force's base in Zaire. Four of the men are said to be lightly wounded but the British Embassy there has not reported on the condition of the others.

A force of nearly 120 Britons has arrived in Zaire over the past two weeks to join the Western-backed FNLA forces in Angola. The men following them face the problem that on Tuesday the Zaire Government said it would not allow any more mercenaries to enter.

Their paths to London airports have already been tortuous.

A hundred of the men were detained by City of London police on Tuesday when they assembled at a London station. They were freed after a search for arms and then early yesterday had to make their way to the church hall of St George in the East in Cannon Street Road, east London.

The hall had been booked for 12 hours overnight. The Rev Alex Solomon, the vicar, had been told it was being used by a film crew working in the Wapping area.

Some of the mercenaries got lost trying to reach east London on the Underground. Then when they reached the hall a number decided to quit the force and about 30 are reported to have left after receiving £10 expenses. The others were given uniforms and a military haircut.

The men are being paid £150 a week, receiving the first week's money in advance. The rest of their wages will be paid into their bank accounts and they have been told they will get £10,000 insurance.

Mozambique capital renamed

Johannesburg, Feb 4.—President Samora Machel of Mozambique, during a four-hour speech yesterday to mark the country's first "day of the heroes of the national liberation", announced that Lourenço-Marques, the capital, had been renamed.

He told the crowds: "The city of Lourenço-Marques died today at 9.35 am and from its ashes the city of Maputo has now been born." All unoccupied buildings in the city would be taken over by troops, police and party officials.

S Africans patrol 'buffer zone' territory

From Our Correspondent
Cape Town, Feb 4

South Africans were surprised to learn today that their defence forces are still holding various points in Angola, penetrating up to 35 miles into that country.

In an interview with the *Washington Post*, Mr P. W. Botha, the Minister of Defence, said that 4,000 to 5,000 South African troops are patrolling "the whole area for which we are responsible".

At first, he said, South African troops had "so much success we were ...

The Russian-backed MPLA and their Cuban allies countered with what he said were "superior weapons", notably the 122mm rocket launcher and the "Stalin organ".

Although defence matters and Angola have been extensively debated in the South African Parliament in the past two weeks, this is the first indication South Africans have had that their military commitment in Angola, after withdrawal from the civil war, amounts to anything more than the defence of the Calueque and Ruacana hydro-electric installations, just inside the Angola border.

But the *Washington Post* report, now also carried in South African newspapers, suggest that South Africa is, in fact, manning and holding a "buffer zone", extending all the way from the Atlantic to Zambia. It is designed to keep guerrillas of the South West African People's Organization (Swapo) from slipping into Namibia (South-West Africa) from sanctuaries in Angola.

In Parliament last week, Mr Botha did not admit any commitment as extensive as this but suggested that South African activity was limited to border defence and protection of the hydro-electric works. There is likely to be some opposition criticism of Mr Botha's action in disclosing more information to foreign newsmen than to the South African Parliament.

In the *Washington Post* interview Mr Botha said that South African troops will stay in the buffer zone until a new Angola regime assures Pretoria that it will not provide bases for terrorists striking across the border into South-West Africa.

Pretoria, Feb 4.—A South African soldier died in a shooting incident in the Angolan border area, Army headquarters announced here today. He was the first member of the Citizen Force (reservists) to be killed since its mobilization.

His death brings to 35 the number of South African soldiers and airmen killed since incidents began in the border areas.—Agence France Presse.

Dehydration kills 176

Sao Paulo, Feb 3.—At least 176 children died from dehydration in this city last month, according to hospital figures published today.

THE INDIAN OCEAN AND THE THREAT TO THE WEST

FOUR STUDIES IN GLOBAL STRATEGY
EDITED BY PATRICK WALL

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OVERSEAS

Mr Karami promises relentless war on looters in Lebanon

Beirut, Feb 4.—Mr Rashid Karami, the Lebanese Prime Minister, promised a "relentless war" against looters today and assured citizens that their looted belongings will be returned.

Addressing reporters after a Cabinet meeting, Mr Karami appealed to looters to surrender booty to police at once "or face a severe punishment when discovered".

He said that looters should also return "bits and pieces stolen from government departments, like telephone sets, electric appliances and furniture". A special military committee had been set up to "chase looters and bar them from selling stolen booty", he added.

Police say thousands of houses and shops have been looted during the 10-month civil war that has left 10,000 people dead. Many of the stolen goods have gone to street merchants and are available at cut-rate prices all over the city. A bottle of high quality Scotch, for example, goes for about £2 on the "free market".

The Government has appealed for financial assistance from oil-rich Arab states and well-off Lebanese citizens and immigrants. Special committees have been formed to receive assistance funds and channel them to needful citizens, Mr Karami said.

In the meantime, the Lebanese-Syrian-Palestinian military committee enforcing the cease-fire announced that it was proceeding with its efforts to remove street barricades and regain weapons and armoured vehicles stolen from the Army and internal security forces.

The committee promised to comb Beirut and northern Lebanon to free an unspecified number of kidnapped people. Three bodies were found in a car in the Christian suburb of Brummanah, police said.

The country's 74 accredited banks, the bedrock of its war-weakened economy, announced today that they would reopen fully for business on February 12 after being closed for more than two months. The Bankers' Association, which represents foreign as well as locally owned banks, expressed confidence that if peace continued Lebanon could swiftly make good its war losses.

According to one unofficial but authoritative estimate, these amount to at least 11,000m Lebanese pounds (more than £2,000m). Several banks, including the main Beirut branches of the British Bank of the Middle East, have been looted or damaged in the fighting.

Dr Noman al-Azhari, vice-president of the association, said he was confident that Lebanon could maintain its position as the financial hub of the region, noting that the Lebanese pound had stayed reasonably stable.

The country's cherished status among businessmen was threatened by the civil war, which drove large amounts of capital out of the country. The association urged bank proprietors to show understanding towards their many creditors in the hoped-for period of economic rehabilitation.

It also called on the Government to speed up efforts to restore telephone and postal services. One Beirut newspaper said that 15 million letters were waiting to be distributed.—AP and Reuter.

Cairo clears Nasser of pocketing $15m loan

From Our Correspondent
Cairo, Feb 4

An allegation by an Egyptian political writer that the late President Nasser deposited a $15m (£7.5m) loan in his own account abroad has been denied by a government committee formed to investigate the charge.

Mr Galal Eddin el-Hamamssi, editor of the Cairo daily newspaper *Al Akhbar*, alleged in his book *Dicloque Behind Walls* that in 1957 the late President gave orders that the loan, provided by the late King Saud of Saudi Arabia to [illegible] to Nasser personal account.

The committee, in a report to Mr Mamdouh Salem, the Prime Minister, published today, said the Central Bank had proved that the loan, given in two cheques, had been transferred in full to the Treasury. The bank's document showed that the Saudi loan had been repaid in Egyptian currency and in exports.

Another document from the Ministry of Economy, also published here today, said President Nasser had instructed the Minister of Economy in 1967 to negotiate and conclude the Saudi loan.

In its report the committee said that even if there were allegations that Nasser had "smuggled a single millième (a tenth of a penny) abroad" they would be completely baseless.

The committee also found that there had been no tampering [illegible] contributions from foreign countries, which were at the disposal of the late President.

Mr Hamamssi said in *Al Akhbar* today that he was not satisfied with the committee's findings. He was meeting the Prosecutor-General to substantiate his allegations.

Britain ready to discuss quotas with Iceland

By Our Diplomatic Staff

British officials are standing by to go to Reykjavik for talks on the short-term agreement on fishing quotas with Iceland, Mr Callaghan told the Commons yesterday.

Despite disappointment at the earlier rejection of Britain's proposals, "we are prepared to explore the prospects of a short-term agreement without prejudice to a longer one", the Foreign Secretary said. Mr Kenneth East, the British Ambassador in Reykjavik, conveyed this message to Icelandic officials yesterday.

"It remains to be seen whether it is possible for the Icelandic Government to make any realistic offer or indeed any offer at all", Mr Callaghan said. He told the House that the fishing fleet had been advised to resume fishing normally from midnight. If interfered with, the trawlers would be protected.

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday that the Royal Navy frigates Juno and Diodeme were patrolling outside the 200-mile limit declared by Iceland last summer and could be with the trawlers "within hours".

Meanwhile, Mr Callaghan went on, the fishing industry had been invited for urgent talks about voluntary limitations designed to ensure that the British catch does not endanger the conservation of cod stocks.

Twice he had offered to accept mediation in that matter. "I repeat the offer again today. I am conscious of the concern of our Nato allies and shall ensure that they are fully informed of the facts and of our intentions.

"The record will show that we seek good relations with our Icelandic neighbours, and I believe many of them feel the same way about us. But no nation has the right unilaterally to impose measures which are unreasonable in themselves and which strike directly at the livelihood of our people in the fishing industry."

As Mr Callaghan spoke, 32 British trawlers were fishing off the east coast of Iceland in spread out formation. There were spasmodic requests to them from Icelandic gunboats to haul their gear, and they were following instructions by complying.

Our Brussels Correspondent writes: Nato today urged Britain and Iceland to exercise restraint in the disputed fishing waters. The message came from Signor Paolo Panza Cedronio, the deputy secretary-general of the alliance.

Johannesson, the Icelandic Fisheries Minister, said today that Iceland would not promise to refrain from cutting the nets of British trawlers during negotiations. He told the Althing (Parliament) that any such promise would mean surrender.—Reuter.

Leading article, page 15

Call for demolition of Berlin Wall

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

Mr Roy Mason, Secretary of State for Defence, called on the Soviet block yesterday to start pulling down the Berlin Wall. No better proof could be offered to the West of its belief in détente, he said.

In an interview with *The Times* he described the 15-year-old wall as the most visible obstacle to the freer movement of people that was promised at the conference on security and co-operation in Europe last year.

Alternatively, Mr Mason invited the block to make unilateral reductions in its tank armies in central Europe or to relax its policies towards ethnic minorities in the Soviet Union as a gesture of good will during what promises to be a crucial year for East-West relations.

Progress was being sought at the strategic arms limitation talks (Salt) during an American presidential year, he said. In Vienna talks on mutual and balanced force reductions had reached a critical stage, with the possibility of reducing the numbers of tanks and tactical nuclear weapons in central Europe.

"If all these broke down, the cold war could return and pressures to build up armaments would be considerable", he said. "If there is no movement on them this year, I would place the onus on the Soviet Union."

Mr Mason was speaking a fortnight after the famous attack by Mrs Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, on Soviet defence and foreign policy, and a week after his own reply in which he described her speech as "ill-timed and provocative".

Yesterday he agreed that he had himself in the past delivered similar warnings about the Soviet arms build-up. What he had objected to in her speech had really been the implication that Britain could do anything about it on its own.

The Soviet Union's prompt and pained reply to Mrs Thatcher's initiative was explained by Russian awareness that they were "on test" at present in the West.

This also explained last month's invitation to observers from Greece and Turkey, two Nato powers, to attend Warsaw Pact military manoeuvres in Armenia and Georgia, thus implementing another of the provisions of the security and co-operation agreement signed last year in Helsinki.

Mr Mason thought Soviet strategy was directed towards lowering tension in the West so that Russia could concentrate upon the gradual encirclement of China, which was why the Chinese were encouraging everyone in the West to adopt a strong attitude in dealing with the Russians.

Mr Mason reaffirmed his belief in détente policies. It was a question of time. "But we could say to the Soviet Union: 'You have to be able to show that you believe in détente, too'", he said.

Argentine warship given Nelsonian blind eye

Continued from page 1

an Argentine boarding party on board but not to risk his ship; the Shackleton, as well as its 30 crew, can carry up to 32 members of the Falkland Islands survey team.

At this point, according to Captain Johnston, the Almirante Storni ordered him to steam towards Ushuaia in Tierra del Fuego, the southernmost Argentine port.

Captain Johnston presumably turned a Nelsonian blind eye to this instruction for the Shackleton, and began steaming for Port Stanley without replying. Then, for reasons still unexplained, the Almirante Storni proceeded to pace the British ship through the Atlantic.

Formerly the USS Covell, the Argentine warship could easily have stopped the Shackleton. It has a speed of 35 knots against the Shackleton's 11½ knots, carries four-inch guns, anti-aircraft guns, torpedo tubes and racks and depth charges.

The Argentine Government promised to issue a statement about the affair last night after a protest by Mr John Shakespeare, the British Chargé d'Affaires in Buenos Aires. Mr Shakespeare was ordered by the Foreign Office to ask for an explanation and to request the Almirante Storni to leave the Shackleton alone.

Former Ceylon Governor General guilty

From Our Correspondent
Colombo, Feb 4

Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, aged 83, the former Governor General of Ceylon, and five others, including his son-in-law and daughter, Mr and Mrs C. Sathanandhan, were today found guilty by a three-judge criminal justice commission of illegal transactions in the buying and selling of foreign currency. Mr Justice G. T. Samarawickrema, chairman of the court, said they would be sentenced tomorrow.

The other three for sentence tomorrow are Mr A. R. M. Mulathar, a Colombo gem merchant, and his two sons.

Jury chosen for Hearst case

San Francisco, Feb 4.—A jury of seven women and five men was chosen today to hear bank robbery charges against Patricia Hearst, granddaughter of William Randolph Hearst, the newspaper magnate, exactly two years after she was kidnapped.

She faces up to 35 years' imprisonment if found guilty of joining her kidnappers, the Symbionese Liberation Army, in an armed raid on the Hibernia Bank here on April 15, 1974.—Reuter.

The Times Special Report
on
THE FRENCH IN BRITAIN
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THE TIMES

CONCORDE DECISION

Jubilation in London and Paris but US 'anti' lobby is stung into action

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Reaction in British aviation circles to Mr Coleman's decision on Concorde was one of jubilation. The best that anybody had hoped for had been a limited trial of up to six months into Washington only.

British Airways said they will start to negotiate permits to fly supersonic services to both New York and Washington. If the permits are granted without delay, and if the environmental lobby in the United States does not succeed in the courts in holding up the services, the airline could be operating by the summer.

Round-trip fares will be £584 between London and New York and £620 to Washington. This is a surcharge of about 17 per cent on the present first-class subsonic fares. Subsonic airliners take six and a half hours to cross the Atlantic. Concorde will halve that time.

One important result of a successful supersonic operation into the United States could be to force the reluctant American airlines to buy Concordes to defend their markets, so bringing greatly-needed work to the British and French assembly lines in Bristol and Toulouse.

These plants are producing only 16 Concordes under present plans, and most of the construction of this batch is complete.

Mr Henry Marking, managing director of British Airways, said last night: "We are delighted with this wise and sensible decision."

Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, said: "We welcome the opportunity to demonstrate that Concorde can operate without significant adverse effect on the environment."

The British Aircraft Corporation, manufacturers of Concorde with their French partners Aerospatiale, said: "The 16-month trial is a fair period. We are confident that Concorde will get the full go-ahead at the end of the trial."

Fair, says France: The French builders of Concorde warmly welcomed the decision. M Jean Charles Poggi, senior Aerospatiale executive, said: "We got what we wanted, at least for a start. Twice a day to New York and once to Washington—that's a fair decision."

M Poggi said the 16-month trial period was enough. Opponents prepare: United States environmentalists, local authorities and other anti-Concorde groups moved swiftly yesterday to get the courts and Congress to keep the airliner out of America.

The Environmental Defence Fund, a citizens' group, filed a suit in a Washington court seeking a review of Mr Coleman's decision, and said it might later seek an injunction to prevent any flight.

In New York, Mr Lester Wolff, a Democratic congressman said he would file a suit to block flights in and out of Kennedy airport.

Authorities in Fairfax County, Virginia, said they planned to seek an injunction against flights to Dulles airport.

Excerpts from US Concorde ruling

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Feb 4

The following are excerpts from the 98-page document setting out approval for Concorde flights to the United States for a 16-month test period given today by Mr William Coleman, the Secretary of Transportation.

This decision involves environmental, technological and international considerations that are as complex as they are controversial, and do not lend themselves to easy or graceful evaluation, let alone comparison.

I shall, none the less, attempt in some detail to explain my evaluation of the most significant issues. . . . For I firmly believe that public servants have the duty to express in writing their reasons for taking major actions, so that the public can judge the fairness and objectivity of such action.

Moreover, explaining our reasons in writing may help us avoid unreasonable actions. A decision that "cannot be explained" is very likely to be an arbitrary decision.

The Civil Aeronautics Board has certain authority to regulate foreign air carriers and in appropriate circumstances to suspend, reject or cancel unreasonable or discriminatory fares in foreign air transportation, and the Federal Aviation Administration has authority to regulate aspects of aircraft operations that relate to safety. It is these provisions of the international agreements that also reserve to the United States the authority to deny the Concorde permission to land altogether, or to place restrictions on Concorde operations, if unrestricted permission to operate would be inconsistent with the policies expressed in the environmental laws of the United States.

These provisions, and a sense of justice as well, demand that the laws of this country be applied fairly and without discrimination, respects in which a total ban of the Concorde at this time, without giving it any chance to prove itself, could conceivably be attacked as discriminatory. However, I do not feel that the provisional and restricted order I issue today can justly be so attacked.

The requirement that foreign air carriers operate in accordance with operations specifications was devised, in part, as a mechanism for implementing Section 601 of the Federal Aviation Act.

Pursuant to this statutory framework, I am relying on the administrator's determination that the Concorde meets the FAA's applicable safety requirements, though I would add that my review of the record has indicated that the administrator's safety determination is amply supported. The overall decision whether to permit Concorde operations into this country is much more then a safety decision, however. . . .

Two environmental statutes are of particular relevance to my decision in this case—the Noise Control Act of 1972 and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Under the Noise Control Act, which is relevant in so far as it provides policy guidance for the decision, the Federal Aviation Administrator, after consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, is required to promulgate such regulations governing aircraft noise as he may find necessary.

Among the facts the Noise Control Act requires the Administrator to consider is whether a proposed standard is "economically reasonable, technologically practicable, and appropriate for particular type of aircraft (jet) aircraft engine". . . .

The administrator has exercised this authority with respect to subsonic aircraft, but he has not promulgated a noise rule applicable to supersonic aircraft, although the EPA has proposed several alternatives. It is significant that with respect to subsonic aircraft the administrator did not impose noise standards on aircraft already built prior to the promulgation of the standard.

Moreover, the decision not to act precipitously on supersonic aircraft should not be surprising in the light of the history of the development of the supersonic transport. During the early developmental stages of this type of aircraft, both in the United States and Europe, the technological capacity to minimize the noise levels generated by an engine sufficiently powerful to drive a supersonic transport was uncertain.

Promulgation of a feasible noise rule at that time would, therefore, have been highly speculative. By the time scientists had gained a sense of the limits the ability to control supersonic aircraft noise levels, the design of the Concorde was fixed and, for all practical purposes, immutable.

I must, therefore, conclude that the absence of a noise rule promulgated under the Federal Aviation Act does not compel a decision either way on whether the Concorde should be permitted to land.

I do believe, however, that I have a statutory obligation to consider in the present context those factors the Federal Aviation Act lists as important in a decision to promulgate a noise rule. Thus, I have concluded that the impossibility of reducing the noise level of the Concorde is a relevant factor in my decision—that as I weigh the various competing considerations I should remain aware that the British and French would not be able to modify this first generation of Concordes to reduce the noise impact.

My obligation to consider whether the environmental impact of the Concorde compels me to restrict or ban Concorde operations in the United States also arises from the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. . . . fits that would accrue from an unlimited approval do not justify the environmental consequences, I leave the authority to deny the application or to approve it conditionally or temporarily.

As we have benefited from the advances of science and technology so much we welcome technological innovation, recognizing that what is new is unknown and that progress is possible only with some tolerance and assumption of risk. But as we have established our commitment to environmental enhancement, so must we recognize that transportation improvements must meet environmental standards.

As we have promoted our aviation and commerce abroad, so must we deal fairly with the technology of other nations at home. But as we envision a world shrunk to half its present size by the speed of supersonic travel, so must we search for knowledge about the stratosphere and the delicate ecological balance that sustains our health and agricultural productivity.

Thus, sound public policy compels me to consider the immediate and long-term advantages that would accrue to the American people from these limited flights and then to decide whether "the public benefits flowing from the actions (outweigh) their environmental costs. . . ."

Benefits of admitting the Concorde include the significantly greater speed of this aircraft, enabling transatlantic flights in half the time needed for subsonic passage, thereby facilitating international trade, commerce and cultural exchange; the knowledge that will be gained from testing the environmental consequences and commercial viability of the Concorde in order to determine whether private capital should be committed to the development of a cleaner, quieter, more efficient SST; the advantages of securing United States participation in the international SST structure, thus putting ourselves in a position to influence international environmental, safety and atmospheric standards, and the enhancement of international cooperation and economic reciprocity.

The benefits should also include the prevention or alleviation of potential harms, such as economic disruption in Britain and France, the threat of economic retaliation, the perception of unfairness or discrimination in the international community, and the charge that, by banning Concorde, the United States—as a possibly essential transatlantic terminus — would assure the demise of the programme and preclude the development of a more environmentally acceptable second-generation SST.

An important component of our calculation of benefits must also be fairness and equity, for there may have been probable cause for the British and French to rely upon a United States market when they made the resource commitment, now almost 53,000m for the development of the Concorde. . . .

In assessing the environmental cost of Concorde flights, the analysis of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not limited to the proposed six daily flights. But in that regard I cannot emphasize too strongly that my decision today is firmly and unequivocally limited to not more than six flights per day, and that the authority I grant is provisional for 16 months from the commencement of operations, if not revoked earlier.

During the last four months of this period and before any approval may become permanent for the six daily flights involved, an environmental reassessment will be made. Any additional flights beyond the six would require a new EIS.

I would nevertheless be blind to ignore, in my consideration of the application for these six daily flights, the possibility of a future expansion of operations if supercially successful and environmentally acceptable.

Although the existing evidence about the environmental consequences of the Concorde and the substantial doubts about its commercial viability make expansion highly questionable, the EIS nevertheless thoroughly analyses the effect of 25 flights a day to Kennedy airport and five to Dulles, based on this department's projection of the likely maximum number of Concordes that would be needed, assuming commercial viability, to service these markets for supersonic transatlantic travel for 1987.

I have reviewed this information, and have been fully cognizant of it in reaching a decision. But I wish to make absolutely clear to the manufacturers of the Concorde that I would not hesitate to bar an expansion of the number of flights, or indeed even an extension beyond 16 months of the six flights per day, if the information obtained during the 16-month demonstration shows that the noise of emissions have a significant adverse impact on the environment.

For these reasons, I believe the appropriate measure of the total costs is the adverse environmental effect of the six daily flights plus the possibility, however unlikely, that additional flights may one day be authorized.

Environmental consequences. . . . The Environmental Impact Statement extensively analyses the effect of the proposed Concorde flights on ambient air quality. . . . The analysis clearly shows that the effect of the proposed level of operations on the air quality is negligible. In fact, to the extent there is any impact at all, it will be only within the boundaries of the airport itself. . . .

Nothing I have received on the public docket or at the January 5 hearing has given me cause to doubt the accuracy of these figures. I have therefore concluded, in light of the relatively small number of flights, that the air quality impact of the Concorde is not significant for the purposes of this decision.

The Federal Energy Administration and certain participants at the public hearing have argued, however, that I should ban the Concorde as a symbolic gesture. I certainly agree with the view that this is a time when we should be encouraging more fuel-efficient technology, when Americans must learn to be more frugal in the use of our precious natural resources.

As a public official, I have urged the United States aerospace manufacturers to make fuel conservation and productivity a top management priority. But it would be unfair to single out the Concorde as an appropriate symbol of United States fuel conservation policy. We did not build it. We will not pay its fuel bills.

Noise is the factor which has generated by far the greater part of the controversy surrounding the British and French request, and it must be this factor, if any, that compels me to restrict or ban Concorde flights to either of the two airports. . . .

The noise analysis is quite complete, and yet it gives me no clear direction. . . . Perhaps even more significantly, the noise data provide me with only a descriptive and statistical view of the noise impact. Noise is not an objective experience; people do not agree on how objectionable a given sound may be.

Noise is a source of great irritation to some, but of little to others. People may react more intensely to Concorde noise than they would to another new and equally loud source, merely because of the controversy which has surrounded the introduction of the aircraft. The EIS indicates to me that the marginal impact of six additional flights would be small.



Mr Coleman: "Progress is possible only with tolerance."

ENTERTAINMENTS

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صكاف الاصل

THE ARTS

LSO/Colin Davis
Festival Hall

Stephen Walsh

Sibelius's Violin Concerto is one of the few works where you really can tell from the first half-dozen bars what kind of performance you are in for. On Tuesday Miriam Fried created at once that sense of inchoate thought which must have been in Sibelius's mind when he drew the strange melody out of thin air, starting on a wholly improbable discord, and slowly formulating the material for the rest of the movement. The reading was a good deal slower than average, but fully justified itself in the sustained beauty and controlled virtuosity of Miss Fried's playing.

Nevertheless the total effect was not wholly convincing. It is, indeed, an unsatisfactory concerto, one of the few works by Sibelius where the scoring is more imaginative than functional. Where Miss Fried failed to make herself completely audible, she joined a distinguished line of violinists who have had the same difficulty. As for the episodic quality in the performance, that arose from the introspective type of reading but might have been avoided if the conductor, Colin Davis, had asserted himself more.

Miss Fried played so intelligently and imaginatively that I feel more churlish than usual in my reservations. In any case she is an outstanding player, one of the best to emerge since Zukerman.

After the interval Davis conducted the longest version I can remember hearing of Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique*, observing the repeats in both the first and fourth movements. He also gave the seldom played cornet descants in the Ball scene, which heighten, perhaps unnecessarily, the sense of nightmare possession in this weird piece. But otherwise the early part of the performance was notable mainly for its restraint. Davis sought rightly to emphasize the classical mastery of the first movement, but allowed the slow movement to slip into inconsequence.

The last two movements, however, were electrifying. I wish he had made an *attacca* into the *Marche au supplice* as well as out of it: the timpani allusion is surely too devastating to ignore. But it would be hard to imagine better playing. The LSO makes too many small mistakes these days, but can sound very good.

Mayakovsky exhibition lives again

On April 14, 1930, Vladimir Mayakovsky, the poet and dominating artistic personality of the Soviet revolutionary years, shot himself in his Moscow apartment. He was 37. A month earlier his merciless satire *The Bathhouse*, directed by Meyerhold, had opened in Moscow to a notably chilly reception. Six weeks before that, on February 1, there had been the opening of an extraordinary exhibition which Mayakovsky himself had organized in celebration of 20 years of his work since 1910. In that year, at 17, he had been released from his second prison term for revolutionary activities, and had begun his artistic career as a student at the Moscow School of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture.



Mayakovsky c 1930

The exhibition was nominally presented by the Federation of Soviet Writers, but as usual Mayakovsky had found himself doing everything. As he worked feverishly on the preparation, mounting posters and photographs writing captions and slogans and pasting up albums of cuttings, friends dropped in claiming to want to help, but in the end they just looked and picked quarrels and went away again. Mayakovsky had discovered in the course of the work that a questioning, critical, creative intelligence like his does not win popularity. When his assistants had gone to the *Pravda* offices to look for old articles and cuttings, the official had said, "If it's for Mayakovsky—No!"

The exhibition was arranged in the Writers' Club in Vorovsky Street. (Later it was to be transferred or reproduced in Leningrad and in provincial centres.) At the door visitors were greeted by a huge placard in red and black which declared: "To complete this exhibition it would be necessary to bring here TRAMS AND TRAINS which carry on their sides battle-cries. ATTACKS, howled in couplets. THE WALLS, THE BARRICADES and the banners which range under the Kremlin walls, throwing into the wind THE FIRE OF THEIR SLOGANS".

Inside an introductory caption explained: "The essential purpose of this exhibition is to enlarge your notions of the work of the poet, to show that the poet is not that gentle, shorn lamb that goes bleating lyrical and erotic verses. The poet is one who, when the class struggle is intensified, takes his pen to the proletarian arms depot; one who, not letting himself be intimidated by the heaviest work, does not hesitate to undertake any theme whatsoever of the revolution and construction of the national economy; one who writes propaganda verses on all the concrete problems of our political economy.

"My second intention is to show the quantity of work realized. Why? To show that they are not eight-hour days, but days of sixteen, eighteen hours which the poet works, faced with the gigantic tasks which currently face our republic. To show that there is no time for fooling, and that day after day, without cease and respite, we must work with our pen. . . . .

"What is shown here does not represent a tenth of what might have been collected."

The exhibits amply justified Mayakovsky's claims for the poet's large and aggressive role. The exhibition began with photographs of Mayakovsky's well-to-do provincial childhood. Even as a small boy the features were already recognizable—the aggressive mouth, the thrust-out chin and the eyes which pierce even in photographs. Already by the time he was 15 he was six foot tall and possessed of his thundering basso. (When he enrolled at the Art School they joked that he sounded like another Chaliapin.)

There were documents of his early political involvements and embroilments with the police. He took part in revolutionary manifestations at 12, was first arrested at 15, and enrolled as a member of the Bolshevik Party the same year. There were his books in all their editions, his illustrations, his articles, cuttings, favourable reviews and bitter attacks ("Mayakovsky is incomprehensible to the masses"), brutal or affectionate caricatures. There were his early works as a Futurist and the fruits of his years with his magazine *Lef*. There were posters and photographs and designs for his plays and films, placards for his poetry readings. From the Museum of the Revolution he had borrowed the political cartoons which he had devised for the windows of Moscow's Central Post Office in the "heroic" period of revolution—The "ROSTA" posters.

There seemed nothing that Mayakovsky had not tried. The dozens of posters included advertisements for watches, groceries and cigarettes as well as exhortations to hygiene, factory safety, fire precautions, and slogans like "The holiday's over—Monday's here!" There were wrappings and labels: the slogan on "Ira" cigarettes was "the only thing surviving from the old world!"

Mayakovsky's constant cry was that "the future has already begun"; and he addressed himself (very accurately as time was to prove) to posterity. He recalled bitterly the bureaucrat who sneered "What does posterity matter? You may have to explain things to posterity, but I have to make excuses to the district committee, which is much worse".

The poem which accompanied the exhibition, "At the Top of My Voice", was a direct appeal to posterity, and in a sense Mayakovsky's testament. There is a terrible irony about the title. The bull-like voice that had bellowed poems throughout the Soviet union was failing. Either strain or chain-smoking had taken their toll, and a serious throat affection was added to Mayakovsky's exhaustion, disillusion and personal difficulties. Yet his readings could still thrill his audiences till their hair stood on end, quite literally, it seems.

Honoured
comrades of the future!
In rummaging through
the petrified excrement
of today,
To study the shadows of our age
perhaps
you will also ask
who I was.

And he told them quite clearly and challengingly in this last poem.

His suicide note ended with the words: "Useless to look back at the sorrows, the misfortunes, the reciprocal wrongs. Be happy! V.M." By the time of the exhibition Mayakovsky was so embattled in polemical disputes that many of his friends had turned their backs. Officialdom snubbed him. Few writers came to the show, and little or no press. Mayakovsky's consolation was the youngsters and students and aspiring poets who thronged in and packed the room for his readings.

Nor did officialdom quite ignore it, happily for posterity. The Lenin library asked if they could have the exhibits after it was over; and it is thanks to their foresight, and the State Literary Museum which has subsequently conserved the material, that it was possible to restage the exhibition in Moscow in 1972, almost exactly as Mayakovsky had first created it. Now this extraordinary self-portrait is shown abroad. It opened in December in Paris at the Centre National d'Art et de Culture Georges Pompidou, and last month began a tour of French provincial museums.

David Robinson

Two playrights put to the test of time

In 1955, by chance, Tennessee Williams and Arthur Miller produced a couple of double bills. Now, not quite by chance, but in honour of the bicentennial, when every play is coming up red, white and blue, Arvin Brown has had the idea of combining a couple of them in one programme: Williams's *27 Wagons Full of Cotton* and Miller's *A Memory of Two Mondays*. The programme at the Playhouse marked the inauguration of the Phoenix Theatre at its new small but cosy home on West 48th Street. The company will be playing there with a series of American plays through the spring.

Brown's choice of plays was adroit, adept but cruel. It was a clever idea to give a double bill of Williams and Miller, who were the major new American playwrights of the decade or so following the Second World War. Yet the choice of plays almost symbolized how well Williams is surviving and how grievously Miller is fading.

For the Williams one-acter, perhaps not a major piece, has a pungency and sexuality that still works, while the Miller, rather more ambitious, one presumes, is a spin-off from the verismo school of the American theatre that was waiting for Lefty while the rest of the world was waiting for Godot.

It is curious how Williams evokes time, place and character. At times he overemphasizes in the interest of poetic reality, and very often he is more interested in a sharp vignette of life than a conventional story.

There is something of a Maupassant in him, or if one were to choose a movie comparison, a Jean Renoir. The short play, the short story, is a form that suits Williams unusually well. His brevity has a style and, more important, a suspended timelessness to it.

27 Wagons Full of Cotton was written immediately after the war, although it waited 10 years before it has its world premiere in New Orleans, in company with another Williams one-acter of the same period, *Lord Byron's Love Letter*.

Jake, the ageing owner of a cotton gin in the south, is faced with competition from a high-powered syndicate. He tries a little arson, burning down the competition's mill, and as a result finds himself with 27 wagons full of cotton to gin for the syndicate. The superintendent of the syndicate, Silva, is suspicious of Jake, but finds a complacent bed partner in Jake's wife, Flora. Both Jake and Silva, to say nothing of Flora, tacitly agree to adopt a good neighbour policy—it is cynically raunchy and yet with a touch of the poet.

Miller's *A Memory of Two Mondays* made its debut in a double bill with the rather more substantial *A View from the Bridge*. Reviewing the first production, Brooks Atkinson said, in *The New York Times*, "Let's skip the first one", and one understands how he felt.

A Memory of Two Mondays, takes place during the Roosevelt years. The first Monday is the day after Hitler seizes power in Germany—it is that kind of play—and is set in an automobile spare parts warehouse in Manhattan. It is mawkish, sentimental and rambling. It is one of those narratives that are long on characters but short on character, and it resembles plays such as *The Front Page* but without quite their sound and commercial plotting. A young man is saving up his pennies to go to college and (wouldn't you know it?) he is absolutely surrounded by the most unforgettable people he will ever know.

Both plays have been brilliantly staged. James Tilton's scenery and Albert Wolsky's costumes effortlessly evoke the right time and place, and Brown's decision has the elegance, pace and accuracy that always mark his work. Moreover, the company the Phoenix has put together for this long repertory season looks like one of the best ensembles we have had in America for years. These actors go beautifully together—and they are splendid actors.

In both plays Meryl Streep is a knockout—sexy in a womanly rather than a girlish fashion, and terribly funny. But all three of the actors in the Tennessee Williams come over superbly, for Roy Poole, first as the rascally arsonist and later in Miller's play as an old immigrant searching for death, is most touching, and Tony Musante is wonderfully incisive as the coolly lecherous cotton mill superintendent, and later as a harried family man worried about a car and an adultery he could not afford.

Thomas Hulce proved a model of decent bewilderment as the young man due for college and fame, Pierre Epstein cut a nice figure as a kind-hearted manager. Leonardo Cimino was adorable as an old man who dreams of fighting Indians. Rex Robbins made a pleasantly catatonic drunk who reforms, and John Lithgow scored as an Irish drunk who doesn't.

The Williams play is a surprise, even a discovery, and while the Miller is altogether less impressive, it does at least give a lot of very fine actors a chance to show off their very fine wares.—New York Times News Service.

Clive Barnes

Friedrich Gulda leaves the rat race

At the age of 45, the Viennese pianist Friedrich Gulda has announced his retirement from the concert stage. For a world-famous musician who at 12 won admittance to Vienna's Academy of Music to study with Bruno Seidlhofer, who at 16 won first prize in the Geneva Competition and launched an impressive international career, who at 19 played his Carnegie Hall debut, who at 23 played all 32 Beethoven sonatas in Vienna and one year later in Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Buenos Aires, Berlin and Frankfurt, who has appeared as soloist with almost every major orchestra in the world, and for whom Schwan currently carries listings, many music-lovers will regard it as a puzzling end for such a career.

Omens of Gulda's discontent with his lot as concert pianist began to appear years ago when he turned to composing and performing jazz as an avocation which he came to take ever more and more seriously. He mourned the death of improvisation in the performance of classical music and campaigned for its revival. Those who followed the news of the musical world recognized a sort of ferment going on inside Gulda. His classical fans—and, especially in Central Europe, he has many—reacted with shock incredulity at the first reports of his intended retirement. When at the end of one of his last recitals his fans massed themselves at the edge of the stage and shouted *"Klavier!"* *Klavier!"* at him, Gulda's odd but ironic and revelatory response took the form of shouting back at them the Nazi cry *"Sieg Heil! Sieg Heil!"*.

Gulda has chosen as his own equivalent of Walden Pond a lovely Austrian lake called the Attersee, not far from Salzburg. Here, in the village of Weissenbach, Gulda and a pretty companion named Ursula, a former voice teacher at Salzburg's famous Mozarteum, have installed themselves in a modest two-room cottage light-years removed from what even the greatest and most successful musicians in the world refer to as the rat race.

Different artists find different solutions to the perils of that rat-race. Van Cliburn's musical development during the 18 years since that immensely gifted 23-year-old Texan won the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow provides food for thought about too much too soon. When Maurizio Pollini, after winning Warsaw's Chopin Competition, recognized the dangers facing him, he showed the extraordinary good sense simply to withdraw for several years in order to regain his equilibrium and fix his own identity. Gulda, it seems, now feels an urgent need to make up for literally, tragically lost time.

Playing the piano, he says with devastating simplicity, gives him "no pleasure any more". He and Ursula have packed their little house with all manner of sound-producing and recording paraphernalia, and here they pass apparently pleasant hours with, for example, him tootling on a recorder or using a fork to get sounds out of a clavichord's strings and her gently raking a comb across a suspended cymbal. Gulda defines his retirement as "ultimate rejection, an almost total renunciation of all participation in public musical life".

"Often", Gulda said recently, "I find myself astonished at how far removed I already feel from the classical music world, which had become such a hindrance to me—as if I'd never even been a part of it. I did 30 years of service there, so to speak, years I now think of as in fact just one long-drawn-out period of dying. During those 30 years I often had the feeling of passing life by, but I never let that feeling get the upper hand. I did, though, during those years lead a sort of double life—better, even so, than those pitiable musicians who pernic the music world and especially their fan clubs to keep them from perceiving what really happens."

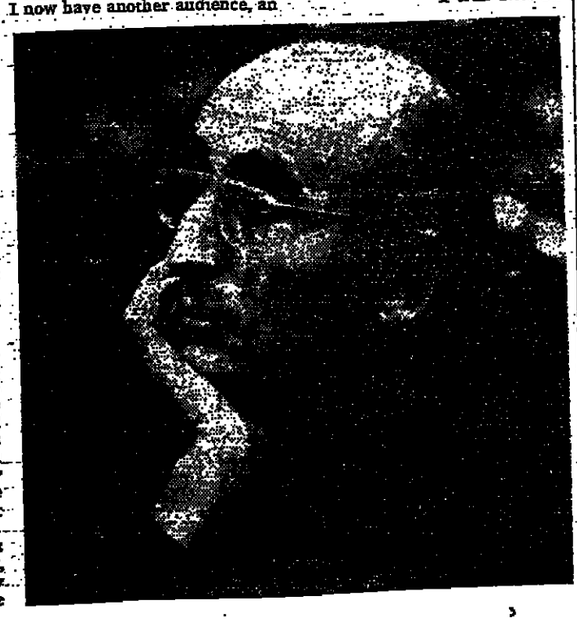
At his last appearances as a concert pianist, Gulda made it almost arrogantly clear to his admirers how little their own interests meant to him. Today he talks rather vaguely of finding—some time, somewhere—a new audience.

"I believe", he says, "that today's concert audience is—or has become, or has been made—unreachable, due to certain factors. It seeks its own self-confirmation, but *never* music. In psychological terms, that audience has become completely autistic in its preoccupation with itself, and as a result it never really listens. On top of that, in view of my own experience, I find it dangerously aggressive. I now have another audience, an audience accustomed to going to jazz clubs and to concerts of avant-garde music or free jazz or exotic music—a youthful audience, either ignorant of the European classical tradition or largely indifferent to it. Those characteristics do not apply to the bourgeois musical audience, and for that reason I don't care to play *for* that audience any longer, because experience has taught me the impossibility of a fruitful, interesting, mutually profitable exchange with that bourgeois audience.

"Since Ursula and I have lived up here in the country, I have finally had the opportunity, after all the *Hetzerei*, the hustle, which constituted so great a span of my lifetime, to come to myself, to seek—and to an increasing extent to find—my *own* music. That audience and the critics who belong to it denied me that right. By that I mean that they confused my role with my identity, they refused, and they still refuse today, obstinately, and will always continue to refuse, to recognize that the identity of an artist, or of any human being, is in fact more important and valuable than the role into which circumstance sometimes forces him to slip.

"In the world today, as matters stand, and also naturally in that small, unimportant area which belongs to music, there prevails one supreme value: success—and, naturally, its correlative, money. It remains to a large extent unknown that there exists a value higher than that. By that", Gulda says simply, "I mean happiness. Recently it has brought me joy to come ever closer to that way of thinking. If it should prove possible in my life to combine the two, that certainly would not make me unhappy, but with happiness alone I'd remain quite contented."

Paul Moor



Orlando's music

RLPO/Groves
Philharmonic Hall
Liverpool

Paul Griffiths

Artists have often tended to regard their works as children, but rarely can the metaphor have been more appropriate than in the case of Giles Swayne's *Orlando's Music*, which received its first performance on Tuesday from the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra under Sir Charles Groves. The piece was conceived not long after Swayne's first born, completed at the time of the child's birth, and has now been given a splendid baptism.

Swayne, born in 1946, is at the beginning of his career as a composer; perhaps his best-known work so far is the theme music for the Granada television series *The Nearly Man*. He studied privately with Nicholas Maw, and it is to Maw's music that *Orlando's Music*, his first orchestral piece, most closely relates. Swayne's manner, however, is leaner and more directly propelled, though in this particular case that may reflect the joy of the new father.

The work is scored for a moderate orchestra with no percussion except the piano, and is made up of three movements in the hallowed pattern quick-slow-quick. "Fanfare", the first of them, is not so brash and uncomplicated as its name might suggest, though it does move decisively and dramatically in exposing ideas and textures that are to remain characteristic of the work, notably the use of strenuous string counterpoint overlaid with more fragmentary wind writing.

"The Lullaby", the slow movement, has a main tune of rather austere loveliness and features an almost pervasive heartbeat rhythm. In this, and in its musical development, it is suggestive of gestation. Finally, "The Child's Play" presents a riot of nursery tunes harmonized and combined in unpleasingly sour and muddled effect, simple melodies refusing to contribute that freshness presumably required of them. This finale is unfortunate, for the rest of the work shows a composer who, though perhaps too cautious, is fully in command.

For the rest, Tortelier was greeted by a long and loud ovation for the exquisite touches he brought to the Elgar concerto, though occasionally he was caught off balance, and Shostakovich's first symphony opened a cycle that will occupy the RLPO into 1977.

Chilingirian String Quartet
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Keith Horner

During the five years since their formation, the Chilingirian Quartet have made a reputation in music often out of the mainstream of the quartet repertoire. But their South Bank appearances this season seem calculated to consolidate their acceptance as interpreters of the masterworks in a medium where competition among young interpreters is almost as strong as for pianists and cellists. Certainly, expectation seemed high among the large audience for their all-Schubert programme on Tuesday and, in the event, it was not disappointed.

In Levon Chilingirian these players have a first violin not afraid to lend a keen, leading edge to the ensemble which, in Schubert anyway, often imparted an added poignancy without becoming a mannerism. Indeed, in their agreeable forthrightness, the Chilingirian strikes a happy balance between refinement and vitality, so that the rustic touches to the finales of the great A minor quartet, for instance, and later of the Quintet, D956 possessed a natural, uncalculated vigour and necessary humour.

Underlying their approach to surface ensemble, so indicative a pointer of a string quartet's real musicianship, seemed to lie a probing, inquisitive attitude. Where some musicians might aspire to an almost cloistered homogeneity, in the Chilingirian the ensemble arises directly as a result of analysis, careful preparation and, in the end, the music itself. Maturity, of course, governs its success, and inevitably ensemble did become a variable quantity.

In the A minor, it was, for the most part, fundamentally good and spoke of a basic understanding of the music (no mean achievement for a young quartet). Slips of intonation and even a wrong entry in the finale were soon forgotten. But their omission of the first movement exposition repeat in the Quintet and the uneasy equilibrium of the Adagio seemed to hint that, for the moment, the Chilingirian are less at one with this sublime utterance of Schubert's last year.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.



Photograph by Donald Cooper

John Morton and Vernon Joyner
The Lady or the Tiger
Fortune

Irving Wardle

The home of the mini-musical, the Fortune Theatre, has outdone itself with this four-character fairy tale transferred intact from the Richmond Orange Tree.

On a stage bare but for some hopeful strands of tinsel and two bowler-hatted instrumentalists, Michael Richmond's cast enacts the fable of a barbarian monarch who runs his kingdom on a system of compulsory bingo and copulation, followed by compulsory euthanasia at 65. Strutting about in enough fruit salad to outdazzle any Third World ruler, he is continually devising new master-plans to prove his sophistication, the latest being a vast amphitheatre where the cheering multitude will get the thrill of seeing a victim either eaten alive or carrying off the hottest sexual property in the country.

All of which stays well behind the tinsel; while, in the foreground, we follow the story of the princess, a disgruntled young woman working off frustration on her teddy-bears until she manages to shed her unwanted virginity with the aid of a passing minstrel. An apter title for the piece would be *Nero in Toyland*. It takes you back to the heyday of Julian Slade. There is no nonsense about songs having to advance the plot.

When songs arrive, they sit down heavily in the middle of the stage and nothing can happen until they go away. And the book, by Mr Richmond and Jeremy Paul, is a model of English winsomeness: wrapped up in arch reassurance as in so much red flannel, and too addicted to the passing pun ("some day my plinth will come") to pursue the story to any meaningful conclusion.

The company itself improves markedly throughout the evening. The opening threat of a musical performed by non-singing actors steadily retreats once Kate Crutchley as the princess and John Morton as the wandering minstrel get into their stride. Even Gordon Reid, punily undercast as the nursery despot, and Vernon Joyner as his coyly grovelling prime minister, have their moments.

As a result, it becomes progressively easier to succumb to the sweet harmonizing, patter songs, and bouncy dances of Nola York's score: not least a callisthenic number for recumbent diners, for which a hieroglyphic song sheet descends from the flies. Keith Strachan and Martin Elliott accompany in a fittingly simple and melodic style; notwithstanding their vibrophone and bass guitar, it is the spirit of Sullivan that gets through.

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Tragic farce

Operation 'Menace'

The Dakar Expedition and the Dudley North Affair

By Arthur Marder

(*Oxford*, £7.50.)

The Guns of Dakar

September 1940

By John Williams

(*Heinemann*, £4.50.)

It seemed such a good idea at the time. De Gaulle, newly arrived in England to raise the standard of Free France, could be landed with a handful of men at Dakar, where he would be rapturously received by the population and rally all French West Africa to his side.

If the plan had been carried out on the day it first took shape in Winston Churchill's mind—July 5, 1940—it might have come off. But nothing happened that day or that week or that month, and by the time the joint planning committee reluctantly got down to it in August the opportunity was lost. Nevertheless, driven on—even bullied—by Churchill's perpetual optimism (based on misleading intelligence reports) the expedition proceeded to its predestined failure. As Churchill himself admitted, it ended in "miscalculation, confusion, timidity and muddle".

It began, however, hilariously. De Gaulle, never an inconspicuous figure, presented himself at Simpson's in Piccadilly to be kitted out with tropical uniform, explaining in a loud voice that he was off to West Africa. Just behind, in Jermyn Street, Free French officers filled the Ecu de France with stirring toasts of "*à Dakar!*" As de Gaulle and his staff left Euston for Liverpool a heavy case burst open on the platform scattering leaflets addressed "Aux habitants de Dakar".

Incredibly neither Vichy nor the enemy got wind of the operation. We now know that the decision by the Vichy Government to despatch three cruisers and three "super-destroyers" from Toulon to Dakar had nothing to do with the shenanighans in Piccadilly and at Euston.

The British Consul-General at Tangier and our naval attaché in Madrid both sent warnings that the French ships would pass the Strait of Gibraltar on September 11. Both messages went to London as well as Gibraltar, but in London they had to wait their turn in the in-tray. By the time the six French ships had steamed through the Strait in broad daylight it was too late to intercept them. Not that it would have made any difference. The expedition to Dakar was doomed as soon as its original premise—that de Gaulle would be welcomed—proved false. The two days of fog that greeted the British force on its arrival before Dakar—and the brilliant sunshine that illuminated its humiliating withdrawal—were mere episodes that added irony to what had in any event become a tragic farce.

All this is brilliantly described in great detail by Arthur Marder, *Operation "Menace"* is full of fun and anecdote. There is no shortage of eye-witnesses and Professor Marder makes the most of his opportunity. The story is still part of the repertoire at the bar at White's, and Evelyn Waugh enshrined it for posterity in *Men at Arms*.

But for one man it was disastrous—Dudley North, the Admiral at Gibraltar under whose guns the French warships had gone through the Strait. North was relieved of his command a month later, and it took him and his friends, in the Navy and outside, nearly 17 years to be publicly exonerated of dereliction of duty.

Professor Marder pursues the North case to the limits of historical propriety in an attempt to substantiate the charge that North was used as a scapegoat for the failure of Menace, or that Churchill lay behind it. To be honest, it is a waste of the Professor's time, and the appearance of John Williams's *The Guns of Dakar* proves that there is some merit in being able to see the wood for the trees. Mr Williams may not quite match the authority and colour of Professor Marder's narrative, but at least he *knows a false trail when he sees one*—perhaps because he is a criminologist as well as a historian.

The fact is that the Admiralty had lost confidence in North long before the Dakar operation—by July 15 to be precise, when the First Lord (A. V. Alexander) reacted strongly to a letter North had written in protest at the treatment of French ships and sailors at Oran. The First Lord declared he wanted someone on whom he could rely to carry out Admiralty orders without question. Churchill endorsed this view: North had evidently not got "the root of the matter" in him, "and I should be very glad to see you replace him by a more resolute and clear-sighted officer".

That was 53 days before those French ships got through the Strait. I have no doubt that North was treated roughly, perhaps unjustly. But not because of Dakar: and not by Churchill.

Michael Wolff



Photograph by Fred Shepherd

Joseph McCulloch in his St Mary-le-Bow pulpit

Reverend gadfly

My Affair with the Church

By Joseph McCulloch

(*Hodder & Stoughton*, £4.95)

The Church at every period of its history needs gadflies, for all too easily the Church militant can become the Church dormant or the Church complacent. Indeed the Holy Spirit, the Church's Lord and Life-giver, is called by the writer of the Fourth Gospel the *Paraclete*. It is an untranslatable word. "Comforter" will not do, not in the modern sense of that word. "Stimulator" would be nearer at least to some of its original *nuances*. The French have a word for it—*Animateur*. Would it be too crude to think of the Holy Spirit as a kind of heavenly gadfly, stinging into alertness the slothfulness of His Church? If that be the case, He may be expected to do His work. His gracious work, through agents moved by a divine discontent, men and women who love the Church because it is Christ's Body and hate certain aspects of its contemporary manifestation.

Such men have appeared down the ages. Our present century has had its share of *them—Dick Sheppard and* Charles Raven spring to mind—and we must add to their number Joseph McCulloch. We are the better and the stronger for their presence, for their stings, for their word, and their witness.

This is not a wholly happy book, for it comes from a not wholly happy man. But what prophet ever was wholly happy? A prophet is in the nature of the case a man with a burden. And burdens irk and hurt. Joseph McCulloch, for all his complaints about the Church, could never have been happy outside of its service, for if his "affair with the Church" is a love-hate relationship, the love is deep—he has "an indissoluble marriage with religion"—and the hate is a hate of the trappings, not of the essentials.

The book is spiced with humour, and the author can laugh at himself—always a sign of grace. How good that he should record F. H. Gillingham's criticism of his preaching when Gillingham's daughter (later to be McCulloch's wife) insisted on asking what her father thought of McCulloch's preaching: "He reminds me of *nothing so much as a dog* behind a hedge trying to find a hole to get out"!

This is an autobiography, but it is more. It tells in outline the story of a life spent not only in parochial ministry, but also in work with the BBC, in writing, in drama, in the rebuilding of a great and historic church (St Mary-le-Bow), in the initiation and carrying through of a long series of dialogues which have become widely known in the City of London and influential in provoking considerable interest. But besides this, it is a valuable book in that it gives us the thinking of an alert and well-stocked mind. We may differ from Joseph McCulloch in some of his views—would disestablishment be such a liberation of the Church as he seems to think?—but we cannot be other than grateful for the man, the life and the book.

Donald Cantuar

Quick guide

The Emperor Julian, by Rol Browning (Weidenfeld & Ni son, £8.95). Like John Kenn Julian met a violent death the height of his power—be *the myth of a liberal destiny* fulfilled. Professor Brow has put the emperor, nearly succeeded in throw out Christianity a genera after Constantine, into a sc arly frame. This biograph only occasionally pedantic—sensible antidote to G Vidal's beguiling blend of mysticism and swashbuck adventure, presciently publis in 1962.

Lloyd George, by Peter Rowl (Barrie & Jenkins, £8. "Formidable and sumptuous", acknowledges author of this 872 page volu duly daunted by the task has set himself. It is a v full biography which makes of the latest published work well as original sources with ever quite taking off. Pr Llanystumdwy National Sch to death as a largely neglec elder statesman Mr Rowl charts LG's extraordin career in admirable de including those (concern Frances Stevenson for instan which earlier generati skirted round. His publish assert that it is 20 years sin the last complete full-leng biography of LG appear which is not the same, course, as saying that no boo about him have been publish in that time. Others may ha been more revelatory and mo stylish but this work is bo competent and complete.

Biographical Dictionary of t Cinema, by David Thomso (Secker & Warburg, £8.50 David Thomson, a graduate o the London School of Filr Technique now teaching filn studies at a college in Ne Hampshire, has assembled book which is effectively th celluloid DNB. Like the DNI it features some infuriatin omissions and one or two dis tinctly curious entries, althoug unlike the DNB death is not prerequisite for entry itself. I is decidedly odd to find half column on Tippi Hedren an nothing at all on Michael Hor dern, given their respective con tributions to the cinema; on the other hand selection, even wrong selection, is the editor's privilege and for anyone seeking a human version of Halli well's "Filmgoer's Companion" Mr Thomson has compiled it only about half as much infor mation, but arranged in the shape of generally satisfying five-hundred-word life stories instead of the more familiar title catalogues which make up most other current film refer ence books.

Believing anything

Nov 22: How They Killed Kennedy

By Michael Eddowes

(*Neville Spearman*, £4.50)

"They've Killed the President!"

By Robert Sam Anson

(*Bantam*, 75p)

These two books have persuaded me that the inquiry into the assassination of President Kennedy should be re-opened. Not that they have produced any new and conclusive evidence, but their findings are so extraordinary, if contradictory, that they will surely add to the vast numbers of Americans who have already rejected the Warren Commission report.

The "they" in *Nov 22* are the Russians. Mr Eddowes first sketches what he sees as the international background to the assassination. Khrushchev proclaimed his policy of peaceful coexistence, but in reality he was determined to conquer the West in one colossal gamble, Mao Tse-tung was his eager ally.

First there was the 1961 confrontation in Berlin, and then the 1962 Cuban missile crisis. The world was on the nuclear brink when Mao's hordes invaded India. The world trembled, but Kennedy stood firm. He faced down the Russians in the Caribbean, and with Macmillan went to the aid of Nehru. The dream of the West yielding to Khrushchev, and Mao's men marching westwards and seizing the Arabian oil was dashed. Foiled once again, Kennedy had to go.

According to Mr Eddowes Oswald did indeed defect to the Soviet Union, but he did not return to assassinate Kennedy. His place was taken by a KGB assassin, which is supposed to explain why the man shot by Jack Ruby was two inches shorter than Oswald.

Mr Anson has another explanation. Oswald never went to Moscow; he was impersonated by an American intelligence agent. He admits a number of catches in this theory, the biggest being Marina. "What sort of woman would marry a stranger, bear his children, and keep silent when suddenly another man gets on the plane and takes his place?" he asks.

What indeed, but the bemused reader has to plough through 100 more pages before getting to the real blockbuster. The CIA did not only hire the Mafia to kill Castro, as Senator Church's committee on intelligence believes. They also conspired together to kill Kennedy.

The melding together of American intelligence and organized crime is the key to understanding John Kennedy's murder. . . . Few people know of their alliance, and only one is in a position to do anything about it. He has sworn that he will. Before he can, he is murdered in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963.

The faults of both books are glaring. Mr Anson builds his case on suppositions, admits coincidence or faulty logic, and then jumps to his conclusions. Mr Eddowes gets his chronology wrong. The Sino-Soviet split was apparent in 1960, two years before Khrushchev and Mao were supposed to have joined together to conquer the world.

Of course in the twilight world of conspiracy the split can be easily dismissed as a clever commie ploy to mislead the unsuspecting West. As for the CIA and the Mafia, the revelations of the Church committee can be seen to be but the tip of the iceberg. Many people are ready to believe anything, and in this irrational age who can blame them?

Woodward and Bernstein of the *Washington Post*, and Seymour Hersh of *The New York Times*: your hour has come. Drop everything. Solve the crime of the century and save us from further versions of what happened.

Louis Heren

Arnold and after

The Victorian Public School

Studies in the development of an educational institution

Edited by Brian Simon and Ian Bradley

(*Gill & Macmillan*, £8.50)

The fees which British public schools are obliged to charge are by now cripplingly high. Yet parents still press forward eager to cripple themselves.

How to explain this popularity? It rests, I think, chiefly on the quality of changelessness. Education, except for those who can afford the price of a place in the last ditch, has now become the plaything of theorists, social engineers and politicians. Nothing stays the same for long.

Now the young respond to a stable background. There is nothing a sixth-form common room enjoys more than talking about the Old Man's limpet-love of the day before yesterday. By now there are no metaphorical Old Men left except in the public schools and the direct grant schools—and these have had notice served on them.

But of course public school headmasters are not as static as their transient clientele supposes. This collection of 11 essays by different hands seeks to plot their slow adaptation to social and political forces from the Arnoldian revolution of the 1830s to the new postures required by the twentieth century, introduced by such leading figures as Paton of Manchester Grammar School (1908-24), Sanderson of Oundle (1892-1922), or Frank Fletcher who went to Marlborough in 1903.

As by far the most important single influence on the moulding of the Victorian public school was Arnold's, so T. W. Bamford's study of him here dominates the book. Arnold is established as a far more formidable figure than the comic travesty dreamed up by Lytton Strachey. I doubt though whether Bamford makes quite as much as he ought of Arnold's insistence that his staff should be dedicated, able, full-time, and paid a salary commensurate with their talents.

The other pieces—Alicia Percival's on "Some Victorian Headmasters", Norman Vance on that pervasive Victorian word "manliness", Geoffrey Best, J. A. Mangan and Eric Dunning on different aspects of the late-Victorian cult of athleticism and militarism—show interestingly how Arnold's quest for moral excellence was gradually reshaped to meet the needs of Britain's expanding imperial role.

David Williams

Reviews next week: Michael Ratcliffe on Madame Catherine by Irene Mahoney; David Williams on James Joyce.

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use "to discriminate" to mean to treat people or certain groups unfairly that the verb really means to exercise fine judgment. The surface of the conflict may seem to be about words; it is really about ideas and attitudes to life.

It is far more fruitful to approach such questions as Raymond Williams has done, by producing concinnate short essays on the social and intellectual history and the internal tensions of 110 of these slippery and interconnected value words. Such words, referring to fundamental social, political, and intellectual conflicts cannot be reduced, semantically, to a single proper meaning. Thus the powerful pejorative word, Imperialism, can be used to indicate radically different and consciously opposed political systems, neither of which has much connexion with the old root idea of Empire: Soviet Imperialism in Eastern Europe, and Yanqui or Dollar Imperialism in South America. Or, to take a cultural rather than a political word, we approve of a romantic place, but definitely not of a romantic scheme.

Professor Williams deals with characteristic learning, wit, and stimulus to sluggish thought with the historical and social semantics of these difficult words. He started the essays as an intended appendix to his seminal book *Culture and Society*, but there was eventually no room for them. The dilemmas he examines are not primarily linguistic, but social and cultural.

This book is an erudite, elegant and awful warning to anybody tempted to lay down the lexicographical law, in order to apply one authoritative fixed sense to a highly variable and controversial value word. Such a man reveals more about his personal attitudes than about the word. The book is also admonitory enough to frighten the sensitive reader from ever again using existential or evolution; which might be no great loss to the language, at that. John Locke noticed, wryly, the infuriating equivocation of slippery words three centuries ago:

He who considers the errors and obscurity, the mistakes and confusion, that are spread in the world by the ill use of words, will find some reason to doubt whether language, as it has been employed, has contributed more to the improvement or hindrance of knowledge.

Philip Howard



A portrait of Jill Furze, engraved on a glass of Laurence Whistler's own design, 1958, an illustration from Image on the Glass (John Murray, £15) which contains 86 photographs of the most famous of Whistler's engravings, and some by his two sons, with an introduction. The Initials in the Heart (John Murray, £5) Laurence Whistler's account of the five years of his marriage to the lovely and charming actress, Jill Furze, who died tragically young, is reissued.

Troubled destiny

Reluctant Rebel
By Fola Oyewole
(*Rex Collings*, £3.50)

Africa
Dawn or Darkness
By Bankole Timothy
(*Davison Publishing*, £3.50)

Once again, in Angola, African armies are locked in battle—sudden inexplicable surges forward or back, prodigious expenditure of ammunition and few casualties, situations changed by white mercenaries overnight: a familiar pattern. Foya Oyewole's personal account of his service under Ojukwu in the Biafran Army as a battalion commander throws a wealth of light on the war as African war is all-too-often fought.

It is a lively, well-written story, spiced with humour, unsparing in a soldier's contempt for the maladministration and corruption of both staff and civilians behind the fronts. Oyewole was one of the young officers (trained at Mons) accused of implication in the 1966 Nigerian coup. Though a Yoruba, he found himself in prison on the Biafran side of the line just as the shooting war broke out. Released, he had little choice but to take service with the Biafrans who sorely needed him and a few other Nigerian officers, so short of field commanders were they. His non-Ibo origins seem often to have put him at greater risk from the guns and witch-hunts of his own side, than from fire of the Nigerians, which, however, he plainly faced with skill and courage.

The Biafrans did not expect to fight, but, as Oyewole shows, they had the patriotism, blind faith in Ojukwu, considerable faith in fetish, and they tried hard with inadequate weapons, bad leadership and unspeakably bad organization. If they had had more ammunition they would have hung on longer, but they only lasted as long as they did because the Nigerian army, so vastly superior in men and firepower, was almost equally badly led and organized.

This is a story of slow retreat after early successes, desperate measures, gradual disintegration, frightful suffering. Oyewole confirms that few Biafran senior officers, and even fewer senior politicians or civil servants lost their lives—it was the ragged, half armed infantry, the raw field officers, and the civilians who were mowed down, bombed out, starved into defeat.

Mr Bankole Timothy, the distinguished West African journalist who clashed with Kwame Nkrumah, is concerned in *Dawn or Darkness*, with the corruption and maladministration which weakens African governments in peace and can be ... in time so much smarter at coups than fighting other troops, are post-colonial Africa's bane. He now sees a real threat to Africa's hard won independence—but from the venality and inefficiency of its present leadership. He probes the weakness, the personality cults, the lawlessness of black African regimes through their systematic destruction of such free newspapers as the colonialists (notably the British) left them. He takes apart the synthetic idea of the "African personality", he deflates bombastic claims for African writers and modern culture (he is for the spiritual leadership of chieftaincy). He is savage about the ostentation of African politicos, and urges them to "learn that it is not a criminal offence to be a member of the Opposition". Perhaps even the leaders he most admires, such as Nyerere, need to learn it.

He remains convinced that in the end some kind of democracy is the proper political goal for Africans, though he sagely forecasts that the age of the African technocrat is at hand; in the meantime Africa is in the hands of "Afrocracy", which in Timothy's analysis is very close to what has been described as "Kleptocracy"—rule by organized corruption and theft from the taxpayer.

Roy Lewis

SPORT

Cricket

Despair returns with Kallicharran taking the bait offered by Lillee

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Melbourne, Feb 4

Needing 492 to win the sixth Test Match, West Indies were a pitiful 248 for eight at the close of play this evening and on the brink of another big defeat. As in Adelaide last week, Greg Chappell had kept them in the game, theoretically at any rate, with his lunchtime declaration; as in Adelaide, too, they started badly before Richards, with another splendid innings, and Kallicharran gave them hope; but as in Adelaide, again, despair soon returned.

It was remarkable how the contours were the same. At 170 for two, 40 minutes after tea, Australia were looking unlike breaking through; but just as in the fifth Test match Lillee did so, with Kallicharran's collaboration. Needless to say it was the hook stroke that did it, Kallicharran despatching a short ball (it was hardly fierce enough to be called a bouncer) down long leg's throat, as deliberately as if he had asked McCosker, the fieldsman, to open his mouth.

Five minutes later Richards, rather fretting for his hundred, steered Lillee straight to first slip, off the back foot. Richards has provided wonderful entertainment these last few weeks, wrists flashing, his bat a cutlass glistening in the sun. He alone of Lloyd's forsaken side has been spurred by adversity.

Rowe has been reduced to nothing by it. Since making 107 in the second innings of the first Test match he has batted nine times for 135 runs, 67 of which came in one innings just after Christmas. This evening Rowe had been in for only 10 minutes when he took a pace to Mallett and hit him straight to Redpath at short midwicket. Murray was soon caught at the wicket, sparring at Lillee; Boyce, batting as though determined to get out, skied Mallett to mid-off; Holding drove him to extra cover. At Adelaide, West Indies went from 182 for two to 257 for six on the fourth evening of the match; today, on another beautiful batting pitch and in the most perfect light, they were even more feeble than that.

The ball moved about much less than it did for Gilmour and Lillee on Monday. At the start of the West Indian innings Gilmour got practically nothing past the bat; nor did Lillee. Thomson bowled Fredericks with a good one, in his first over. That he bowled Balchan in his fifth was because Balchan moved across too far in defence, uncovering his leg stump, which Thomson hit. That was the last wicket for almost two hours, and for 117 runs.

For as long at that, Kallicharran was discretion itself. Richards, after a rather feverish start, became sounder yet scarcely less spectacular. After tea, taken at 118 for two, Mallett had his first over of the match; he had waited for it since Saturday morning. Thomson came back, appearing more musclebound than menacing. For once Australia looked languid. When Lillee replaced Thomson he was not much more than brisk medium in pace—as he waited for the mistake, or the folly, to come, which, of course, it did.

To say that Lillee waited for the mistake rather than induced it is not quite fair perhaps; he prepared the bait, let us say, and laid it, and Kallicharran fairly gobbled it up. After that, there was nothing medium-paced about Lillee, or remotely defiant about the West Indian batting.

Australia had added another 137 runs this morning for the loss of Ian Chappell's wicket, against bowling (Holding was off the field) tamer than you would expect to find in a minor county match in England. McCosker took advantage of this to mark his return to the Australian side with a hundred, and Greg Chappell to take his aggregate for the series to 702 at an average of 117. When McCosker was left out after the third Test match he had just made 42 runs in six Test innings; but that could have been against another side from the one he played today.

There is an equally sharp contrast to be made in Greg Chappell's fortunes. Against England last summer, in seven innings, he made 106 runs at an average of 21. Someone was always likely to have to pay for that. In 1968-69 Walters, in four Test matches against West Indies in Australia, had an aggregate of 699 runs and an average of 116.5. In West Indies in 1955, against Ian Johnson's Australians, Clyde Walcott did better still with 827 runs and five separate centuries in the five Test matches. Neither Walters nor Walcott, though, had the captaincy to think about. For Greg Chappell, his first series in charge has been a personal triumph.

Test scorecard

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 251 (I. R. Redpath 101, G. S. Chappell 68, G. N. Yallop 57)

Second Innings

I. R. Redpath	c sub, b Holder	70	
J. Turner	lb-w, b Boyce	21	
R. B. McCosker	not out	109	
I. M. Chappell	c Holder, b Boyce	31	
*G. S. Chappell	not out	54	
Extras	(b 5, l-b 9, n-b 1)	15	
Total	(3 wkts declared)	300	

G. N. Yallop, †R. W. Marsh, G. J. Gilmour, A. R. Mallett, J. R. Thomson, D. K. Lillee, did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—53, 2—132, 3—190.

BOWLING: Boyce 19—3—74—2, Holding 1—0—6—0, Holder 18—0—81—1, Gibbs 26—3—52—0, Lloyd 4—1—14—0, Fredericks 3—1—14—0, Richards 7—0—38—0.

WEST INDIES: First Innings 160 (L. V. A. Richards 50; G. J. Gilmour 5 for 54, D. K. Lillee 5 for 65)

Second Innings

R. C. Fredericks	b Thomson	6
L. V. A. Richards	c G. Chappell, b Lillee	98
L. Balchan	b Thomson	20
A. I. Kallicharran	c McCosker, b Lillee	44
*C. H. Lloyd	not out	42
I. G. Rowe	c Redpath, b Mallett	8
†D. L. Murray	c Marsh, b Lillee	5
K. D. Boyce	c G. Chappell, b Mallett	11
M. A. Holding	c Gilmour, b Mallett	4
V. A. Holder	not out	0
Extras	(b 5, l-b 4, n-b 5)	15
Total	(8 wkts)	248

L. R. Gibbs to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—6, 2—53, 3—170, 4—176, 5—186, 6—199, 7—226, 8—238.

BOWLING: Thomson 9—0—67—2, Gilmour 7—1—36—0, Lillee 12—0—84—3, G. Chappell 2—0—6—0, I. Chappell 5—0—10—0, A. Mallett 11—1—43—3.

New Zealand should find pitch to their advantage

Christchurch, New Zealand, Feb 4.—A pitch which promises to help seam bowlers may enable New Zealand to win the second Test match against India starting here tomorrow and level the three-match series.

Polly Umrigar, the manager of the Indian team, said today that he was not worried by the prospect of a lively pitch. "Many of our players have had experience on similar wickets in England, and that should be significant", he said. But in a television interview, Glen Turner, the New Zealand captain, said he was considering putting India in if he won the toss so that his bowlers could exploit the green-looking pitch.

In the first Test, New Zealand succumbed to brilliant off-spin bowling by Prasanna, going down change for comments, bringing in Bedi in place of Venkataraghavan. Bedi missed the first Test because of injury.

Injury has forced a New Zealand batsman, Brian Hastings, out of the match and this means Andy Roberts will make his first Test appearance. A fine player of spin bowling, Roberts scored 104 not out and 36 for Northern Districts against the Indians two weeks ago. One other change from New Zealand's first Test side is the return of Hadlee, the fast bowler, for O'Sullivan, the left arm spin bowler.

NEW ZEALAND: G. M. Turner (captain), J. F. M. Morrison, B. E. Congdon, J. M. Parker, M. G. Burgess, A. D. G. Roberts, K. J. Wadsworth, D. R. Hadlee, R. J. Hadlee, H. J. Howarth, R. O. Collinge.

INDIA: B. S. Bedi (captain), S. M. Gavaskar, D. B. Vengsarkar, S. Amarnath, G. R. Viswanath, B. P. Patel, M. Amarnath, S. Madan Lal, S. M. H. Kirmani, E. A. S. Prasanna, B. S. Chandrasekhar.—Reuter.

Committee to look into Sarfraz allegations

Inquiries into alleged misbehaviour by Sarfraz Nawaz against Sri Lanka last month. Sarfraz was sent home from Sri Lanka after incidents in the first unofficial test in Colombo.—Reuter.

Alan Hampshire told he can make a move

Geoffrey Cope, the Yorkshire off-spin bowler, is to have an operation for a hernia, but expects to be fully fit for the start of the new season in April. Yorkshire have given permission to Alan Hampshire, the younger brother of John, to approach other counties with a view to playing full time first class cricket.

The younger Hampshire, who is a schoolmaster, has played in one championship match for Yorkshire, scoring 17 and 1 against Derbyshire at Chesterfield last July. He feels that with so many other young players challenging for places in the Yorkshire team he may find more scope elsewhere.

Sussex County Cricket Club have appointed a new secretary to succeed Commander Ian Stoop, who resigned recently. He is Stephen Adle, acted as honorary solicitor for Sussex until his appointment to the committee last year. He is 57, was a useful club cricketer and has broadcast regularly on cricket for Radio Brighton and on BBC programmes.

Hockey

London going nowhere if they cannot finish

By Sydney Friskin

London Univ 1 St Albans 2

In the only hockey match of the day which survived the severity of the cold weather, St Albans held off a spirited rally by London University at Motspur Park yesterday. A total of 18 points out of a possible 36 in the London league gives St Albans a 50 per cent record and raises them from 13th position to 10th, one above Richmond.

If Hurst, the St Albans goalkeeper, had not saved a shot from Phoenix with his hand, London might well have saved this game. They asked the umpire if the hand save as fair. The umpire said it was because the goalkeeper had not attempted to stop the ball away. But if a London player had followed up the rebound a goal might have been scored, which only served to underline their weakness, not only in this match but also throughout the season. The high quality of their approach work and general technique is out of all proportion to their low position in the table.

A handful of spectators shivered on the sidelines as both teams did their best on a freezing afternoon. St Albans took play into their opponents' half immediately after the bully off and Bateman, the London goalkeeper, was called upon to save from Ashby.

After 12 minutes of eager striving St Albans took the lead from a move skilfully executed by their left flank. It ended with a centre by Holbrook, and Morgan, after gaining and temporarily losing possession on the right of the circle, scored from a seemingly impossible angle.

Yet within a couple of minutes London should have been on equal terms. A shot by Phoenix from a short corner was saved by Hurst. Benson followed up but was forestalled by Strofton, whose clearance from the line averted a certain goal.

In the second half St Albans organized a general post which service to disturb the concentration of the London defenders. Within five minutes Stephenson, moved from centre forward to outside left, broke through unmarked to catch the goalkeeper out of position and score the second goal.

London, persevering with their attacks on both flanks, were well rewarded in the 22nd minute. Dunkerley picked up a free hit from the right by Edmonds and scored with a strong angular shot. London diligently sought the equalizer in the closing minutes, but two short corners, though well struck by Phoenix failed to produce goals because of the alertness of the St Albans defence.

LONDON UNIVERSITY: R. Bateman (King's College Hospital); †L. Phoenix (Guy's Hospital, captain), M. Wallis (London Hospital), R. Watson (Bedford), J. Edmonds (Royal Free Hospital), A. Wallace (Queen Mary's College), P. Benson (University College), P. Pennock (St Bartholomew's Hospital), M. Dunkerley (Queen Mary's College), P. Ashcroft (Queen Mary's College), M. Stark (Chelsea).

ST ALBANS: J. A. Hurst; P. Beard, N. C. Strofton (captain), I. H. Avery, A. Ewley, I. M. Galley, R. J. Ashby, H. Morgan, A. A. Stephenson, P. M. Kendall, R. J. Holbrook.

Umpires: P. Elal (Eastern Counties) and K. C. Brine (Southern Counties).

Golf

Devilishly designed traps in the Belfry

By Peter Ryde
Golf Correspondent

The centre of the universe may not have yet shifted to Scotland, but one might be excused for thinking this week that it was heading north from London on the M1. After the opening of an exhibition centre outside Birmingham comes confirmation of the removal of the headquarters of British professional golf from the Kennington Oval to the same Midlands area, so well served by road and rail.

The Belfry, a converted hotel in a country park within 10 miles of Birmingham's centre, will be the long-awaited rent-free home. This week the Professional Golfers' Association raised the curtain on its new life, but the centre has still to yield its main secret. What manner of championship course has been constructed outside the front door of this old-new building which will not only house the PGA offices but embrace a 60-room luxury hotel? The true nature of that course (the Brabazon) and of its subsidiary (the Derby) lies concealed still beneath a thin wrapping of snow. The course will be open for play next year, ready to house its first championship in 1978, and will be fit, it is expected, to hold the next Ryder Cup match in this country in 1979.

David Thomas, who with Peter Alliss designed the courses, leaves no doubt that they have been strongly influenced by American design. A plentiful supply of water has made it possible to add two stretches of water to the natural one already there, so that no fewer than 11 holes in its 7,050-yards length come under influence of water. With the exception of the 10th, which requires a deft little pitch over water to a tight green set against trees, the putting surfaces are generous and in one or two cases vast. This may run contrary to the latest trend in design, but the architects defend it on two lines: it will encourage attacking golf to greens with American-style surfaces especially receptive to the pitch; it will make possible several hole positions, and at the same time encourage the handicap golfers who are expected there in between championships in their thousands.

This is a commercial venture into which a shipping company, Ellerman Lines, who hold a major interest in the company, have poured £3m. They and a brewery company, Greenall Whitley, will be looking for a good part of the return on their capital from business groups and individuals making use of the hotel and playing, unrestricted by membership fees, on the two courses. Whether for such a public the course will prove too difficult remains to be seen. At Augusta, where the United States Masters is played, Bobby Jones succeeded in satisfying both championship and long-handicap requirements.

At the Belfry there will be no lack of challenge. Faced at one point with a featureless corner, the architects have taken a leaf from the book of Nicklaus's work at the Harbour Town course in South Carolina. A raised green has been made, like some huge cake and contained by a stockade of vertical wooden posts ringed by a sand bunker, which becomes narrow only at the two points of access to the green. A ball missing the green might ricochet far away or lie devilishly under a vertical wooden face rising to six feet at its highest. At 180 yards from the tee it makes a fair target for professionals at least. Another of the three short holes is on similar lines and when these obstacles have been surmounted the visitor will be confronted by a tigerish finish. Two of the three par-five holes come at the 15th and 17th, and the 470-yard 18th crosses the water twice to a three-tiered green 70 yards long.

As at Augusta, the side walks have been shaped to take up to 25,000 in more or less comfort, but unlike Augusta there will be room for a large crowd round the last green to provide a grandstand finish. A home from home for the Americans? Maybe, but a suggestion that it would only make their Ryder Cup victory more likely was neatly turned to the boundary by the retort that the more the British professionals played it the better would be their chances in America. Meanwhile there could be nothing more British than the newly appointed tournament professional at the centre, Maurice Bembridge.

In the long run the course will stand or fall on its appeal to the handicap golfer who will provide the bread and butter of the finances of the club. If he is attracted, and no golfer can resist a challenge however one-sided it may be, then all parties to what looks like a shrewd deal should be satisfied. The PGA in particular would seem to have every cause to be pleased. They can work there rent free for 99 years. So centrally situated is the site that the PGA have the chance to reverse the fragmentary trend of which there have been signs in recent years. For a time the tournament section will stay in London, but in any case the distance between the two cities is no longer a problem.

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My Fight
...SON
£3.95)

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heart sad yet, despite everything, my cockles refuse to be warmed. At one point Mr Mason quotes Jean Rook of the *Daily Express*, writing of him "He's beginning to look fanatic, tough and brightly polished on television. Just a little professional". And distressed though I am to be in agreement with Jean Rook, ... is rather ... campaign, necessary though it was, seems to have been pursued with a shade too much relish. There is a point, for instance, on the Pan Am flight to meet Ralph Nader in the United States when Mason describes how he organized a boycott of Distillers products on the drink trolley:

I had a resounding success. Crew and passengers—nearly all of them Americans—were laughing at the way I kept barking behind the drinks trolley and leaping out whenever I heard "Gordon's" or "Johnnie Walker" mentioned.

Elsewhere he says:

The next move was known as the Extraordinary General Meeting Caper.

He had to face much criticism during his campaign and responded to it forcefully. When Sarah Broad (earlier described as "very cooperative and helpful") questioned his rather unscrupulous methods he admits:

I lost what little patience I had. "Mrs Sarah Broad", I pleaded. "Will you just get out of this thing and leave it to me".

Brusquely, insensitively, put, but perhaps circumstances demanded that sort of approach. He himself concedes:

Motives are never simple, and they are rarely so completely pure that they can go unquestioned.

Personally I find much of this book unduly self congratulatory, often insensitive, sometimes tasteless. But he got the money; and if his performance had not contained elements which were unattractive he would not have won. You can't, unfortunately, have it both ways.

Tim Heald

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Fiction

Jacob the Liar
By Jurek Becker
(*Harcourt Brace Jovanovich*, £3.95)

Summer's End
...
(*Weidenfeld & Nicolson*, £3.95)

Jurek Becker born 1937, spent his early life in the Lodz ghetto and in concentration camps. *Jacob the Liar*, his first novel, is taken from these childhood memories. Strangely, they are not such terrifying memories. The ghetto is keeping a low profile—so low as to be practically invisible. All the regulations are scrupulously observed—the penalty being death. Jacob Heim, a sweet and gentle man who ran a café before the war, hears by accident that the Russian Army is advancing, and on telling the news, finds himself credited with owning a secret, forbidden radio. He feels he has to live up to this, manufacturing news and information.

Hope is a dangerous drug. The Jews stop committing suicide, feel happier, talk more to each other. There is a very funny moment when he has to imitate the radio, music, news and all, to satisfy the curiosity of the eight-year-old Lena, whose parents have disappeared in one of the regular, frighteningly quiet clearances of the streets. There are entertaining character sketches of the inhabitants, including Kirschbaum, a famous doctor who can't quite get used to being surrounded by Jews, and Leomid Schmidt, who wears his Iron Cross with his Jewish star as an act of defiance.

But inventing news becomes more and more of a strain; the Russians are not coming quickly enough. Franziskaner and Zagorsk Streets are cleared, and it is the turn of Jacob and his friends to arrive at the station carrying 200 kilograms per person only, and board the freight train to—where? The narrator is the only survivor.

First written as a film script, rewritten as a novel, and finally made into an award-winning film (I can't wait to see yet) it is more memorable and touching than half a dozen horrifying accounts. Jurek Becker, the Pole who lives in East Germany, is a very remarkable man, and the translation by Melvin Kornfeld, reads beautifully.

Archie Hill's childhood might also be considered hard and bitter, brought up in the Black Country in the shadow of the Depression. Following his autobiography, *A Cage of Shadows* and a series of documentaries for BBC TV he has, in his first novel, looked back with love and affection on a boyhood spent amid brickyard and coal pit, glassworks and dole queues. A boy with "a right thirsty little mind" as one of the older men, rough but kind, describes him. Father figures replace his own often absent father. There is the Steersman, with his canal boat so carefully and brilliantly painted and his enormous gentle horse, and the "Chairman" at the glassworks, who takes the boy under his protection for a holiday job. The joys of poaching, shooting and pigeon keeping with Gyp, an ex soldier who has never settled down after the war, and the pain of quarrelling with Noggie, the best friend, are equally well described in the short summer between boyhood and an adult's responsibilities.

Philippa Toomey

Science fiction

The Best of E E "Doc" Smith
By E E "Doc" Smith
(*Weidenfeld & Nicolson*, £3.95)

Anyone for the Skylark? Not one feels, as many as there were in the pulp past when admirers were only too eager to climb aboard "Doc" Smith's famous space-ship, the Skylark, to meet heroes with such urgently American names as Dick Seaton or villains designated with a tinge of foreign menace as Blackie DuQuesne. Science fiction has come a long way—had *already* come a long way when he was writing in the 1930s.

At his worst, as in *To The Far Reaches Of Space* he could be appalling. Nobody simply "says" anything: they "sneer", or "croak" or "ask wonderingly". Yet his best, such as *Robot Nemesis*, even though his ideas still outstrip his technique, has a narrative drive that is as compulsive as the force of gravity, slamming us along with the desperate ferocity of somebody who just can't quite articulate what he so very much wants to say.

Lovers of the genre should never be ashamed of one who has been so sneeringly dismissed as a "primitive artifact". He is worth reexamination, if only by those whose work is in danger of being bleached by the application of too much self-conscious method. One thing coloured and, therefore, livened all his work: energy.

Terminus, by Peter Edwards (Macmillan, £3.95). Grimly visionary story on the usual post-apocalypse theme, with magic having superseded science as the basis of the last remaining State, and a lone stranger battling it out with malign forces. It works better than most of its kind because of the sombre intensity which it communicates so that a touch of redemptive hope at the end is very necessary. Mr Edwards is one to look for in the future.

Nebula Award Stories 10, edited by James Gunn (Gollancz, £3.75). Great pickings here, including Le Guin's "The Day Before The Revolution" and Silverberg's "Born With The Dead". Also, try Philip José Farmer's "After King Kong Fell", a three-pronged attack upon the imagination combining humour, sadness and sexuality to show that we are always living in the days of myth.

The Foundation Trilogy, by Isaac Asimov (Sidgwick & Jackson, £4.95). Needs no further recommendation; a classic in conception and execution, its understanding of galactic psychohistory is, often peculiarly relevant to world politics today. Which is probably what Dr Asimov meant all the time.

Charisma, by Michael Coney (Gollancz, £3.50). Mr Coney has deserted his usual brilliant depiction of aliens to come down to earth, to a Cornish village where experiments into the existence of parallel worlds is going on. Some well-realized confusion of identities and a convincing love-affair but it reads too cosily for the discomfiture of the ideas.

Decade: The 1940s, edited by Brian Aldiss and Harry Harrison (Macmillan, £3.75). The title explains the intention and, while the eight stories chosen may not be everybody's choice, there are some fascinating golden oldies of the hardcore kind, as for instance A. E. Van Vogt's "Co-operate—Or Else!" concerning the way of a man with an ezwal: marvellous knockabout.

Retief's Ransom, by Keith Laumer (Dobson, £2.95). Mr Laumer is, fortunately, one of those SF writers who doesn't read as though he's slumming when he tries comedy, even though he does have an occasional tendency to s-p-e-l-l jokes out. This, the further adventures of Retief, a minor space-diplomat who's really a super-hero at sorting things out, is mainly very funny about life on many-limbed Lumbaga, while the preposterous niceties of life in the Corps Diplomatique Terrestrinne carries a contemporary sting.

Tom Hutchinson

When the Boat Comes In, by James Mitchell, reviewed last week by Peter Tinniswood, is also available in paperback (Sphere, 60p).

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...iam Weaver, Financial Times
...amish Hamilton £3.50

GIME by E.L. DOCTOROW
LOVE IT OR HATE IT—
EVERYONE'S READING IT...

SPORT

Football

Pettigrew is a ⌣ream of tin in an otherwise leaden sea

Wales U-23 2 Scotland U-23 3

Willie Pettigrew showed why he is attracting so much attention from league clubs when he scored twice for Scotland in their 3—2 victory over Wales in the under-23 international at Wrexham last night. The 21-year-old Motherwell striker took his total to 31 goals this season and must have impressed the bevy of managers and scouts with his all-round performance in an otherwise undistinguished match.

Pettigrew displayed speed and precision and pleased Willie Ormond, Scotland's manager, who is soon to name his side for the European under-23 quarter-final match against the Netherlands later this month. Despite their narrow victory, Scotland were much the better side, but they made four substitutions in the second half which upset their rhythm.

For Wales, only Jeffrey Johnson and, until he was substituted Les Cartwright, showed any future potential. Tommy Craig, displaying boundless energy in midfield, put the Scots ahead in the 18th minute with a low shot. Pettigrew increased the lead in the 44th minute with an opportunist close range effort after Bremner's shot was not cleared. Wales managed only one shot, from Cartwright, before the interval.

Pettigrew scored again after 62 minutes when Letheran, the Welsh goalkeeper, parried but could not hold on to a penalty by Craig. Although Wales came back in the final 10 minutes with goals by Thomas a substitute, and a penalty from Deacy, they never



Pettigrew : watched by a bevy of managers and scouts.

threatened to snatch a merited victory away from the Scots.

WALES: G. Lotheran (Leeds United); P. Dwyer (Cardiff City), J. Jones (Liverpool), J. Johnson (Crystal Palace), S. Aizlewood (Newport County), D. Williams (Bristol Rovers. Sub. P. Aitken, Bristol Rovers), L. Cartwright (Coventry City. Sub. M. Thomas, Wrexham), N. Lewis (Grimsby Town. Sub. A. Curtis, Swansea City), N. Deacy (PSV Eindhoven), P. O'Sullivan (Brighton), C. Harris (Leeds United).

SCOTLAND: A. Rough (Partick Thistle. Sub. J. Stewart, Kilmarnock); J. Brownlee (Hibernian), C. McLennand (Aberdeen), W. Miller (Aberdeen), W. McVie (Motherwell. Sub. A. Hansen, Partick Thistle), T. Craig (Newcastle United), D. Johnstone (Rangers. Sub. J. Smith, Aberdeen), D. Bremner (Hibernian), W. Pettigrew (Motherwell), J. Craig (Partick Thistle), R. Prentice (Heart of Midlothian. Sub. G. Smith, Kilmarnock).

Referee: J. A. Hunting (England).

Latchford out for rest of the season

Everton's centre forward, Bob Latchford, one of Britain's most expensive footballers, is likely to miss the rest of the season. He has been troubled by a knee injury in recent weeks and a specialist's examination yesterday indicated the need for a cartilage operation which will be performed in a Liverpool hospital next Tuesday.

This is a blow for Everton. who have won only two of their last 17 games and for Saturday's visit to Sheffield United they may again be without their two regular full backs, Bernard and Darracott.

The Football League admitted yesterday that there was no chance of forming an Alliance, consisting of the leading 10 members of both the Northern Premier and Southern Leagues, in time for next season. The purpose of the Alliance is to allow clubs to be promoted into the Football League.

Alan Hardaker, the League secretary, met representatives of both leagues and later said : "We discussed various steps and ideas to form a new league. It is too big a job to rush through for next season, but further discussions are to be held with a view to estab- [illegible]

The proposed Alliance has been suggested for years, but it was only at the League's 1975 annual meeting that it was stated they would seriously consider the formation of an Alliance. By November the Northern Premier and Southern League secretaries, after consultations with the League, had prepared the basis of the proposed Alliance, but they were awaiting confirmation of a starting date.

Kettering again advertise on their shirts

Kettering Town, the Southern Premier League club last night defied a Football Association ban and stepped out on to the field at Weymouth carrying a sponsors name on their shirts.

Playing in the quarter-final round of the Southern League Cup, Kettering, whose manager, Derek Dougan, had last week been asked to give an undertaking not to repeat a breach of regulations by the FA, had the name of a local tyre firm emblazoned across their chests in bold white lettering.

Dougan, who maintains his club have used their initiative to help their financial position, said: "I have sent the FA two letters in reply to their fatuous correspondence forbidding us to wear the shirts."

Dougan added: "As far as I am concerned I am not breaking any rules. There is no reference to this in the Football Association rulings, so I do not think I am doing anything wrong. I shall now be awaiting a reaction from the Football Association."

Last week an FA spokesman pointed out that if Mr Dougan did not comply with their request it would be a matter for the emergency committee or FA council.

[illegible] ceivable that petty minded bureaucrats have only this to bother about," Dougan said. "If it's the same people who brought out the suggestion about cutting out the emotion of kissing and hugging after a goal is scored then I can see the kind of bumbledom I am dealing with."

Hereford's win puts them top of third division

Hereford U 4 Cardiff C 1

Hereford United went to the top of the third division last night after a burst of three goals in the first 25 minutes against Cardiff City. They went ahead in the eighth minute when McNeil, their top scorer, headed home a free kick from Paine.

McNeil added a second when the defence failed to clear another free kick. Hereford kept up the pressure and from yet another free kick. Paine stepped over the ball for Emery to score from 20 yards.

Cardiff took up the attacking after the interval but could not break down a solid rearguard until the 76th minute when Buchanan shot home from 25 yards. Hereford replied through Layton for their fourth in the 80th minute.

Yesterday's results

U-23 international

Wales (0) 2 Scotland (2) 3
Thomas T. Craig
Deacy (pen) Pettigrew (2)
2,222

Third division

Hereford U (3) 4 Cardiff City (0) 1
McNeil (2) Buchanan
Emery 12,962
Layton

LEADING POSITIONS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hereford	26	15	6	5	50	33	36
Crystal Palace	28	13	9	6	43	27	35
Brighton	27	16	2	9	61	39	34
Peterborough	26	11	10	5	45	35	32
Walsall	29	12	8	9	42	37	32
Cardiff	27	12	6	9	41	33	30
Shrewsbury	26	12	6	8	37	31	30
Wrexham	27	11	7	9	35	30	29
Millwall	28	9	11	8	32	35	29
Port Vale	27	10	8	9	33	27	28
Rotherham	27	11	6	10	35	36	28

OTHER MATCH: York City 3, Manchester United 0.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Cup, fourth round: Weymouth 1, Kettering 5. Premier division: Dover 4, Wealdstone 1.

FA CHALLENGE TROPHY: Lancaster 3, Corby 3; Scarborough 3, Goole 1; Telford United 1, Atherstone 2 (after extra time).

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Israel 0, Denmark 1 (in Tel Aviv).

RUGBY UNION: Bath 24, RAF 10; Headingley 0, Fylde 12.

Rugby Union

Snow the only threat to Welsh victory

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Although the club rugby programme seems to face the prospect of another freeze-up on Saturday, the pitch at the National Stadium in Cardiff is in good condition under covers of polythene sheeting. I am assured by the WRU that the only threat to the Wales-Scotland international would be a heavy fall of snow. At midday yesterday the temperature under the covers was five degrees Centigrade. Above it, three degrees less.

There is nothing in Scotland's record in Cardiff over the past dozen years to suggest that Wales will not take a further stride towards another championship. The last Scottish victory on Welsh soil was achieved a year earlier (1962) than the last English one, although only once in the interim have the Scots been subjected to the indignities so regularly heaped upon England.

Wales beat Scotland in Cardiff by 35—12 in 1972. In five other meetings there since 1962, the difference between the two teams has averaged little more than six points. Ireland play France on Saturday in the knowledge that their record in Paris is yet more miserable. Their only victory there since 1952 was achieved four years ago.

It is rare for the championship to begin with two victories by teams playing away from home. Success for France at Murrayfield and for Wales at Twickenham installed them as front runners in the new campaign and it seems probable that the meeting of these two countries, in Cardiff on March 6, will be decisive. Wales by then will be completing their programme, having played Ireland in Dublin a fortnight previously.

Some highly fancied Welsh sides have come unstuck at Lansdowne Road in the past, and another may do so again. But Ireland, rebuilding, are struggling up front and on the face of it Wales—assuming they beat Scotland—may rarely have a better chance of clinching the triple crown in Dublin. Wales would then meet France with the grand slam firmly in their sights.

If they should lose, lamentations in the valleys will be loud and France, two weeks later, would need a draw against England in Paris to win the title. I do not see why England should not have reasonable hopes of beating Scotland in Edinburgh, on February 21 and Ireland at Twickenham on March 6. But France look to have an exciting new side in the making. They are always likely to play better the warmer it becomes and an England victory at Parc des Princes in mid-March would be a considerable achievement.

England selectors travelled a long way last week to see matches that were never played. Because of the weather they may have another blank afternoon this Saturday before meeting to pick the side for the Calcutta Cup match. The England XV will be announced on Monday.

England, beating Australia 23—6 and then losing 21—9 to Wales, would have played the same side in both internationals but for an injury to Barrie Corless in the centre. David Cooke came in for his first cap against Wales and acquitted himself well. If Coventry's match with Waterloo is played on Saturday, one of the selectors will be appraising the form of Corless.

Another will be hoping, inter alia, to see Cooke in action for Harlequins at Northampton. As I have suggested before, the Harlequins are adamant that the selectors should take a close look at their full back, Bushell. I fancy that full back, stand-off and No 8 are the positions likely to cause most selectorial debate—and naturally the right wing, where a replacement has to be found for Squires.

Duckham could be switched over with Derek Wyatt of Bedford brought in on the left. Wyatt himself has played on the right, not frequently but nonetheless with some panache. Alan Morley, of Bristol, is fit again and is another who can play fluently on either flank.

RAF give Army and Navy spies reason to ponder

By Alan Gibson

Bath 24 RAF 10

Bath beat the Royal Air Force by two goals and four penalty goals to a try, a dropped goal and a penalty goal, experiencing rather more difficulty than they had against the Royal Navy. The RAF looked a promising side, and the forwards won a good deal of the ball in all departments, too much of which was kicked away by the half backs. Still, it was not much of a night for venturesome handling movements. A little sunshine earlier in the day had melted the snow and taken the hardest bricks from the ground, but it was bitterly cold. The Avon slunk by like a strip of black steel, not a swan in sight.

Davies scored 20 points for Bath: all the goals, as well as the first try. He is a Welshman, [illegible] players. He had a spell with the Bristol club, which was moderately successful, before coming to Bath, who turned him from a standoff half into a centre, and now a wing three-quarter, and encouraged his goal kicking, which has proved a great asset to the man and the club. He is a pretty good all-round player now.

The other Bath try was scored by Gay, after Horton and Beese had done most of the preliminary work. Horton had another elegant game, his switches of direction frequently giving the RAF opportunities to demonstrate their efficient system of covering.

The RAF try was scored by Wyatt, a Bath man who played well against his own club. Moseley dropped a goal, and Williams kicked a penalty. They were behind from the second minute, and never seriously threatened to win, though there was a period in the second half when Bath became rather casual. All the same, the army and navy spies who attend these occasions at this stage of the season and are never exactly undetectable [illegible] a bit.

Davies: J. P. Horton, C. J. Perry; C. Pudney, A. Edwards, D. Spaven, A. Litowczyk, B. J. Jenkins, G. Pillinger, D. Gay, P. R. Hall.

ROYAL AIR FORCE: FO D. Patterson; J/tech R. Wyatt, PO P. Williams, Sgt G. Moseley, J/tech M. Smith; Cpl K. Howe, Cpl B. Gordon; Sgt S. Pickering, Sgt D. Gatherer, Cpl S. Turner, SAC D. Mason, SAC J. Orwin, F Lt S. Cuthill (captain), FO J. Gibson, F Lt M. Sedman.

Referee: J. Law (Somerset).

McMaster passes himself fit as Agnew drops out

Wallace McMaster, the Ballymena wing threequarter, yesterday declared himself fit to play for Ireland against France in Paris on Saturday. McMaster has been troubled by a calf muscle injury. But after training on Tuesday night and a visit to his doctor yesterday he informed the Irish Rugby Union that he would play.

But, Paddy Agnew (CIYMS) is out of the team because of a knee ligament injury sustained while playing for his club last Saturday. Agnew is replaced at loose head prop by 25-year-old Philip Orr (Old Wesley), who will be winning his first cap. Orr's place in the travelling reserves goes to Tom Feighery (St Mary's College). Feighery played for the Ireland "B" team against France last December.

Agnew withdrew without undergoing a fitness test. "I saw the doctor and he said there was absolutely no possibility that I would be fit to play on Saturday", he said. Agnew has played twice for Ireland against Australia last month and two years ago against France in Paris when he came on in the second half

The French Rugby Union selectors yesterday called on 25-year-old Joel Pecune to replace an injured François Sangalli in the centre for their five nations tournament match against Ireland on Saturday. They also named Georges Ara, of Bagneras, to fill Pecune's place in the reserves list. Sangalli, of Narbonne, pulled out of the side yesterday with a pulled muscle in his right thigh.

Pecune, a Tarbes student, who stands only 5ft 5in and weighs 10st 8lb, was first capped against the touring Argentines last year when he played on the right wing. He played in the centre against Romania, but had to give up his place in the side which beat Scotland 13—6 last month to Sangalli,

Racing

Sandown to answer serious questions

By Michael Seely

The icy weather continues to play havoc with the fixture list. Yesterday morning both today's meetings at Towcester and Wincanton were called off. From Towcester Dennis Bushby, the clerk of the course, said: "We had eight degrees of frost on Tuesday night and racing is quite impossible." At Wincanton after a stewards' inspection the clerk of the course, "Washy" Hibbert, reported that because of snow and frost it was quite unfit to race. Fifteen meetings have now been lost in as many racing days, making a total of 19 this season.

After the abandonment of Wincanton Fred Winter immediately announced that England's main Gold Cup hope, Bula, who was to have run in the Wincanton Challenge Cup will be rerouted to Sandown Park for the Gainsborough Steeplechase tomorrow. Other interesting acceptors for the Gainsborough are The Dikler, Money Market and Lean Forward. David Nicholson's progressive chaser What a Buck, has been declared, but will not run. Giving his decision yesterday Nicholson highlighted the fact that even when the weather relents most horses will be short of peak fitness after impossible conditions on the training gallops.

"I have not been able to work my string for a week", he said. What a Buck, the winner of three high class handicaps in succession, will now have his Gold Cup preliminary outing in either the Whitbread Trial at Ascot on February 18 or the Jim Ford Challenge Cup at Wincanton on February 26. Prospects for Sandown Park and Sedgfield on Friday are none too hopeful. Inspections are planned at 11 am this morning on both courses. The frost is coming out of the ground on tracks, but both clerks of the course emphasized that a further rise in temperature is needed.

Whatever the fate of Friday's racing it would be a pity if Saturday's card at Sandown Park was lost. Apart from the enthralling spectacle of the Stone's Ginger Wine Handicap Steeplechase, the Oteley Hurdle looks like being the most informative trial run this season. The Oteley can provide the answer to several questions. For instance is Lanzarote, set to concede 4 lb to Sea Pigeon and Attivo and 12 lb to Bird's Nest, still as sharp as ever over two miles?

His sparkling victory over Flash Imp, Sunyboy and Tree Tangle at Kempton Park on Boxing Day suggests that the answer is in the affirmative, but Saturday's race should prove the issue beyond all reasonable doubt. Attivo will have to run pretty well to justify his recent heavy support for the Schweppes Gold Trophy.

Finally and perhaps most significantly of all, a defeat for Bird's Nest on these terms would inevitably dash the hopes of those who have backed their opinion with hard cash that the improving six-year-old may be good enough to topple the established stars in the Champion Hurdle. Hills have opened a book on Saturday's event. They go 7-4 Bird's Nest, 3-1 Lanzarote, 9-2 Sea Pigeon, 6-1 Dramatist, 8-1 Supreme Halo and 12-1 Attivo. As regards the rest of Saturday's racing the most encouraging reports come from Stratford-on-Avon and Wetherby, where the feature race is the William Hill Handicap Steeplechase with £2,500 added. The Yorkshire track has thawed out completely and racing would have been possible there yesterday.

The prospects of racing are excellent at Stratford, where an interesting card includes the £3,000 SKF Hurdle for future champions and the £2,000 Glazepta Handicap Steeplechase. Both the leading bookmakers, Hills and Ladbrokes, report sustained interest in the Schweppes. Hills say that Fighting Kate and Attivo are the biggest losers for their book, but following good support for Bob Turnell's impressive Embassy Hurdle winner, Tree Tangle—laid during the past two days to lose £9,000 at 9-1—the seven-year-old is now joint second favourite with Au[illegible] at 8-1.

On the Grand National fr[illegible] encouraging news comes fr[illegible] Donald McCain regarding the w[illegible] being of Red Rum. The d[illegible] Aintree winner, favoured or [illegible] favoured in all lists for this yea[illegible] race, is reported in fine fe[illegible] after his week's rest on [illegible] Greenaway's Cheshire fa[illegible] Despite a hold up in his w[illegible] during the past four days due ice on Southport sands. Red R[illegible] is said by his trainer to be re[illegible] to repeat his victory last year next Wednesday's Haydock P[illegible] National Trial Handicap. [illegible] Rum should return to the Lan[illegible]shire track on March 6 for [illegible] winding-up race in the valua[illegible] Greenall Whitley Brewery's Ha[illegible]cap. Red Rum's new ri[illegible] Tommy Stack, the champ[illegible] jockey, will ride him in both th[illegible] races as well as in the Nationa[illegible]

Newcastle, the first racecou[illegible] this week to beat the freeze [illegible] stage a meeting, would have b[illegible] better off if they had abando[illegible] racing.

That is the view of Newcas[illegible] clerk of the course, Fre[illegible] Newton, after a crowd of [illegible] 800-1,000 people turned up. [illegible] cost us £5,500 plus prize mo[illegible] to stage the card and [illegible] honestly, we would have b[illegible] better off if we had abando[illegible] it", Mr Newton said.

Lord Leverhulme says heritage must be preserved

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

That racing has become a political football is something that is no longer in dispute these days, however much it may pain us at times. It is something that we have to live with and the debate on the horse racing industry in the House of Lords yesterday was further proof that racing's fortunes and future are entwined with politics whether we like it or not.

It is of paramount importance that racing's problems should be aired from time to time and brought to the notice of the government and country. Making his maiden speech in the House of Lords, Lord Leverhulme, the senior steward of the Jockey Club, defended the Jockey Club's role in racing. A deep love of racing, a profound knowledge of racing; impartiality and a passionate integrity were words that he used to describe the Jockey Club which he insisted is held in such high esteem throughout the world.

This country, Lord Leverhulme said, is the birthplace of the thoroughbred and it is vital to provide conditions of taxation and prize money here so that the heritage is not lost and that this country can compete with its rivals instead of slipping farther and farther behind.

The debate had been introduced by Lord Crawshaw, who insisted that there must be a substantial increase in money which will percolate down, and that a minimum of £10m should be ploughed back. And, that money must come from the punter via the levy or a reduction in the tax on betting. Others put the amount of money needed far higher.

After complimenting Lord Leverhulme on his excellent speech, Lord Hoy said that he put the problem down to one of escalating costs, and the rewards not matching those costs, and that if that was the true picture, action was called for from both the Government and racing to improve the situation.

Lord Oaksey remarked that it was a sad occasion because the debate was taking place at all, and even sadder when one realized that this is the only "racing" country in the world where there even had to be such a debate. The problem here is that the Government takes out of racing's economy so much more than it gives back. And that ratio—10-1 to be precise—is a leading contribution to the rot here.

Lord Oaksey went on to say that we are trying to succeed in doing something that no other country has succeeded in doing, and that is combining off-course betting carried on by bookmakers with a healthy racing scene. Bookmakers, Lord Oaksey went on to stress, are less important than racing. Power in racing today is shared by the Jockey Club and the Levy Board, and Lord Oaksey said that they must be held responsible for some of the problems today.

He advocated that their responsibilities should be redefined. He suggested that the Jockey Club should concentrate on discipline, and the running of racing, and that the Levy Board should be made to be more representative of those involved in racing at its fundamental level.

Lord Newall said that in his opinion there are two basic problems confronting racing, a lack of money and a lack of a single body to coordinate and organize the sport. And he said that the government ought to be made to answer why, after the Benson Report, no steps had been taken to set up a British racing authority and when steps would be taken to return enough money to the sport to make it viable.

Then it was the turn for Lord Wigg to take the floor. And, true to form, this free-scoring batsman who has taken on the Jockey Club time and time again in the past, was intent on knocking his opponents for six. Lord Wigg spoke for almost 40 minutes and he began by saying that plenty of nonsense had already been spoken. Today, he said, all we have heard is the rattling of tin cans when instead we should have been counting our blessings.

No other sport gets between £8m and £9m annually. Not a few eyebrows were raised when Lord Wigg said that the money was not being spent honestly in the public's interest. We then got a harangue about betting in this country and the reasons why much more money is available in France. His explanation was the nature and the way that betting takes place in the two countries.

Lord Wigg explained that a tote monopoly in this country is out of the question, although I failed to hear any of the other speakers actually advocate one. But, whereas most of the speakers were insistent that more money should be ploughed back into racing via the levy, Lord Wigg took the opposing view, saying that there was no case whatsoever for adding a penny on to the levy.

He was adamant that if ther[illegible] a case for more prize mone[illegible] should be made public. He [illegible] obviously violently opposed to increase in the levy if it mea[illegible] meant increasing the values pattern races.

The Earl of Mansfield, [illegible] wound up the debate for [illegible] opposition, said that it is impo[illegible]ant to realize that racing in [illegible] country is controlled neither little men nor big men on [illegible] make, but by knowledgeable, [illegible] less, dedicated men. The deb[illegible] had brought home the point th[illegible] the industry is undergoing gra[illegible] problems and that it is not much a lame duck but a s[illegible] goose. The Earl of Mansfield we[illegible] on to stress that it is plain that is an industry of the greatest i[illegible]portance and one that deserves sympathetic ear from the Gove[illegible]ment, which ought to impose up[illegible] itself a degree of self-denial.

He looked to the Governm[illegible] for a crumb of comfort, but un[illegible] I was mistaken that crumb [illegible] not forthcoming from Baron Stedman, the government spok[illegible] man on environment, who c[illegible]cluded for the Governme[illegible] Baroness Stedman did say that [illegible] Government is aware of racin[illegible] problems and not unmindful the pleasure that it gives to m[illegible]lions and the work to thousand[illegible] of the important contribution th[illegible] racing makes to the economy a[illegible] of the good name of British rac[illegible] and bloodstock.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Wel[illegible] Grand National Handicap Steeplechase, Chepstow: Prolan, Carroll Street, Rou[illegible] House, Kilvulgan, Prince Rock, Fly[illegible] valo, Ernie Wiltshire, Nereo. [illegible] Handicap Steeplechase, Newcas[illegible] Paddys Best, Royal Marshal II. A[illegible] engagements (dead): Alake.

Newcastle results

1.30 (1.31) MOORHEN HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £449: 2m 120yd)
Sounds Good, b c, by Laser Light—[illegible] (Miss E. Allan), 4-10-0 ... 1
Vimy Line (Mrs M. Hodgson), 4-11-0 ...... T. Stack (2-1 fav) 2
Crime Buster, b g, by Busted—County Court (J. Pickavance), 4-10-7 .... K. McCauley (6-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 4-1 Spartan Gold, 6-1 Prince Vision, 12-1 Donican, Star Penny, 14-1 Sergeant Striker, 25-1 Relock (4th), 33-1 Chantro, Flareun, Inverary, Dunyasha. 15 ran.
TOTE: Win, 83p; places, 20p, 16p, 18p. Denys Smith, at Bishop Auckland. Hd, 7l. Hindhope did not run.

2.0 (2.1) SWAN STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £683: 2m 120yd)
Sea Count, b g, by Hard Tact—Seamenco (A. Weaver), 7-11-7 C. Brownless (5-1) 1
Holly Park, ch g, by Garland Knight—Greek Light (Miss C. Crooks), 8-11-11 .. D. Cartwright (5-1) 2
Duforge, b g, by Dual—Kilbella Lady (A. Snipe), 9-11-6 C. Tinkler (2-1 fav) 3
ALSO RAN: 3-1 High Mark, 6-1 [illegible], 14-1 Tatters Inn.
TOTE: Win, £1.02; places, 45p, 44p; dual forecast, £2.41. G. W. Richards, at Greystoke. 3l, 1l.

2.30 (2.31) DIPPER STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £1,863: 3m)
Forest King, b g, by Hubor—Workington Wanderer (K. Hogg), 7-12-0 .... R. Barry (1-2 fav) 1
Arctic Mist, ch g, by Arctic Slave—Little Eva (P. Muldoon), 6-11-8 D. Goulding (3-1) 2
Double Gem, br g, by Nicky's Double—Arctic Gem (Maj E. Cliff-McCulloch), 9-11-5 T. Stack (7-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 33-1 Of Course (4th). 4 ran.
TOTE: Win, 14p; forecast, 22p. K. Hogg, at Penrith. 20l, 15l.

3.0 (3.3) CRESTED GREBE HURDLE (£1,690: 3m)
The Last Light, ch g, by Rubor—Joyful Light (J. Dixon), 7-11-7 P. Broderick (10-1) 1
Good Prospect, b g, by Orcharist—Cagire's Plummage (T. Dudley), 7-11-10 .... R. R. Evans (6-1) 2
[illegible] Light, ch g, by Rubor—[illegible] C. Tinkler (8-1) 3
ALSO RAN: evens fav Town Ship (p), 6-1 Dark Sultan (p), 10-1 Oroslo (4th), 25-1 Knock Twice, 33-1 Dunnet Head, 66-1 Old Walter. 9 ran.
TOTE: Win, £1.34; places, 3[illegible]p, 18p, 24p; dual forecast, £2.53. J. Dixon, at Carlisle. 1½l, 3l. Mark Henry did not run.

3.30 (3.32) COOT STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £585: 2½m)
Sparkle Again, br g, by Proud Chieftain—Magakanya (C. Lamb), 10-10-13 .... R. Lamb (3-1) 1
Jock Stein, gr g, by Kabale—Scarlet Beach (S. Leadbetter), 8-10-0 . M. Barnes (6-4 fav) 2
Southern Lad, b g, by Kabale—Ahanaciogh (H. Leader), 9-11-8 T. Stack (9-4) [illegible]
ALSO RAN: 6-1 Wyse Hill (4th)
TOTE: Win, 35p; forecast, 69p. [illegible] Lamb, at Seahouses. 1½l, 4l.

4.0 (4.1) MOORHEN HURDLE (Div II: novices: £441: 2m 120yd)
[illegible], by Pall Mall—Bastille (C. Young), 4-10-7 N. Tinkler (9-[illegible]
Sunfit Spur, ch h, by Laser [illegible] Zarespar (W. A. Stephenson), 5-12-0 . T. Stack (2-1 f[illegible]
Upper Scheles, b c, by On Y[illegible] Mark—Nagakanya (A. Hanley) 4-10-0 K. Holmes (20-[illegible]
ALSO RAN: 9-2 Evershot, [illegible] Purple Gem, 13-2 Rambling Jad[illegible] Tudor, Maestro (4th), 10-1 [illegible] Gambler, 20-1 Woolkin, 25-1 [illegible] Lady, 33-1 Hello Louis, Red [illegible] King's Camp, Young John. 1[illegible]
TOTE: Win, 81p; places, 31[illegible] £1.38. K. Oliver, at Hawick. [illegible]
TOTE DOUBLE: Forest K[illegible] Sparkle Again, £3.80. TREBLE: [illegible] Count, The Last Light and La[illegible] £87.60.

Squash rackets

Referees should be harder on rule benders

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

Four Pakistanis, three Australians, and a Cornishman will contest today's quarter-final round of the World open squash rackets championship, sponsored by Lucas Industries, at Wembley. The pairings, which are those forecast by the seedings, are Qamar Zaman v Jonah Barrington, Mohibullah Khan v Hidayat Jahan, Ken Hiscoe v Gogi Alauddin, and Cameron Nancarrow v Geoffrey Hunt. Zaman, the holder, Hunt, his predecessor, Alauddin, twice runner-up, and Jahan have come through without losing a game.

The third round produced an unpleasantly obstructive match in which Hiscoe, known as "The Bear", beat that free-swinging Pakistani, Torsam Khan, a fierce-looking competitor whose temper always seems to be close to boiling point. Torsam seems to be typecast in the role of "heavy". There were more interruptions than points. To be precise, there were 82 lets, five penalty points and nine rejected appeals, compared with 62 points scored.

As a spectacle, the match was ruined. Players and referees should all take a closer look at the rules concerning fair view and freedom of stroke, lets, and the power of the referee in "exceptional" cases. The cosmopolitan assembly of leading players, referees, and administrators at Wembley this week offers an opportunity for a symposium that could reasonably seek a more uniform interpretation of the rules—and an increased strictness in their application.

There will always be differences of opinion and at the highest level there is so much prestige and money at stake that some players are tempted to bend the rules as far as they dare. It is up to the referees to come down hard on any excesses. But the emotional stress of big occasions does not destroy the spirit of the game. It merely puts a man's character to the test. Anyone can behave well when there is nothing at stake. Most squash players behave well whatever is at stake. But the exceptions damage the game's good name.

Happily, the third round programme ended with a charming match in which Mohamed Asran's deft lobs and drops could not prevent Zaman from exposing the Egyptian's deficiencies in terms of speed and stamina.

Rackets

Instruction giv[illegible] after early morning exerc[illegible]

By Our Rackets Correspo[illegible]

The Scottish division, [illegible] sented by Andrew Myrtle ([illegible] and Bruce Osborne (Black Wa[illegible] looked the strongest of the [illegible] pairs to reach the semi[illegible] round of the inter-regi[illegible] doubles at the Army r[illegible] championships at Queen's yesterday. Their opponents are the RAC, the holders, [illegible] pair has been weakened b[illegible] absence of Christopher B[illegible]waite.

All three RMA Sandhurst [illegible] were beaten largely through of experience. But the fa[illegible] three entered, including o[illegible] of instructors, shows that [illegible]siasm is being revived. Inde[illegible] eager were the cadets to g[illegible] action that they arrived a[illegible] club wearing full combat kit with blackened faces, having come off an early morning [illegible]cal exercise.

In each match the servi[illegible] Alexander Finlayson (R[illegible] Myrtle or David Reed-Fel[illegible] (RHG/D) took its toll, maki[illegible] difficult for the Sandhurst to compete in the game. But all remained to watch two [illegible] masters, Geoffrey Atkins Thomas Pugh, demonstrate skills of the game, including taking of service, in the Comb[illegible] Services (past and pres[illegible] doubles.

The longest match came in Combined Services event w[illegible] David Chappel and David Ha[illegible] who have improved during week, beat Anthony Ward Patrick Hoare by 15—4, 12—15—6, 10—15, 6—15, 15—5, [illegible] 11. In essence this was a co[illegible] between the serving of Hardy Ward with the former gaining edge. But the margin was min[illegible]

RESULTS: Inter-regimental dou[illegible] championship RAC (Lt A. L. Fi[illegible]son and Lt P. R. Hoare) beat RHG (J. Manningham-Buller and [illegible] Valence), 5—15, 15—1, 15—0, [illegible] 7, 15—8. Scottish division: (Col A. Myrtle and Capt B. M. Osborne) [illegible] RMAS II (G. Simpson and C. Wa[illegible] 15—4, 15—0, 15—2, 15—1; RHG (Capt D. M. Reed-Felstead and [illegible] L. S. Livingstone-Learmonth) [illegible] RMAS III (Maj H. B. J. Phillips [illegible] Capt W. J. Willans), 15—9, 15—[illegible] 15—5, 15—2. Combined Serv[illegible] (past and present) doubles champ[illegible]ship, first round: D. Reed-Felstead [illegible] Lt C. M. Craggs beat R. J. Crosby [illegible] J. M. L. Paul, 15—12, 15—5, [illegible] 15—10; Maj D. M. Chappel and [illegible] D. T. L. Hardy beat Lt P. [illegible] and A. J. H. Ward, 15—4, 12—15, 15—6, 10—15, 6—15, 15—5, [illegible] 11; G. W. T. Atkins and C. T. [illegible] Pugh beat Osborne and R. B. [illegible]ford, 15—4, 15—4, 15—9.

Boxing

Stracey-Lewis bout to take place in March

By Neil Allen
Boxing Correspondent

John Stracey will make his first defence of the world welterweight title against Hedgemon Lewis, of the United States, at the Empire Pool, Wembley, next month.

The news was confirmed yesterday with the proviso that the contest will take place on March 16, 19 or 20. The final date depends, apparently, on whether or not American television wishes to show the championship to its viewers. March 16 would mean the manipulators of the "box" would not be interested, but the other two dates could bring further income to Stracey and his opponent from what is reputed to be a £100,000 promotion.

Lewis was to have boxed Stracey at the Albert Hall in January, 1975. Indeed, he arrived in this country, accompanied by his friendly sponsor, the American actor Ryan O'Neal, but the match had to be abandoned when Stracey went into hospital for an emergency appendix operation. At that time Stracey's manager, Terry Lawless, said he felt that Lewis was a hurdle which Stracey must clear before going for the world title which he later won from Jose Napoles.

Lewis, who has boxed for the world title before, is still ranked as the fifth contender for the world's 10st 7lb title, although he was recently held to a draw both by Hal Weston and Carlos Palomina. He is noted as a skilful points stealer with a solid punch

John Zeraschi, the ABA light-welterweight champion, has applied for a professional licence. He will be managed by Terry Lawless, who runs the highly successful East London stable.

Motor racing

Britain's top young driver dislikes F1

By John Blunsden

Five of Britain's most promising young racing drivers were honoured in London last night at the presentation of the Grovewood Motor Racing Awards for the 1975 season. They received cheques to a total value of £2,000 from James Hunt, who was himself a recipient of one of these awards in 1969.

Usually, the ambition of any winner of a Grovewood award, which is presented for outstanding promise during the formative stages of a driver's career, is to earn a place in a grand prix team. But this year the first prize of £1,000 has gone to a driver who has already sampled Formula One racing and who says he did not particularly enjoy it.

He is Brian Henton, a 28-year-old garage owner from Etwall, Derbyshire, who, along with many other drivers, ended up among the chicken wire when he made his first appearance in Formula One in a John Player Lotus in the rain-spoiled British Grand Prix at Silverstone last July. Since then he has been signed up by Tom Wheatcroft, whose erstwhile protégé, the late Roger Williamson, was the top Grovewood award winner in 1971.

Henton will be driving the new Wheatcroft Formula Two car in a full season of international races this year, but he says that he will only return to Formula One if Tom Wheatcroft renews his own association with grand prix racing, which ended tragically with Williamson's accident in the 1973 Dutch Grand Prix. Henton says that there is no question of him driving for any other team.

The second Grovewood award of £500 has gone to Geoffrey Lees, aged 24, from Tamworth, who dominated Formula Ford racing last season. He won 32 individual races as well as the Brush Fusegear, national organ and BAF championship. This season he hopes to graduate into Formula Three as a stepping stone towards a place in a Formula One team.



Henton (left) and Lees : top Grovewood award winners.

The selection of Larry Perkins for the third award of £300, is a measure of the impact which this 25-year-old Australian expatriate—one of four motor racing brothers—made last year in Formula Three. Driving a Ralt car designed and built by Jack Brabham's former partner, Ron Tauranac, Perkins won the somewhat truncated European Formula Three championship and has now earned himself a Formula One drive in an Ensign-Ford, entered by the HB Bewaking team in the Netherlands.

One of two special commendations for 1975, each worth £100, has gone to 24-year-old Tiff Needell, from Weybridge, for his Formula Ford efforts which included 12 race wins and victory in the Townsend Thoresen championship. The other was awarded to 23-year-old Jock Robertson from Edinburgh, who drove a Mazda saloon so effectively that he won his class in 30 of the 35 races he contested last year and took both the Radio One and Britax championship.

This is proving to be a busy and profitable week for British drivers who have made the grade. Later today Stuart Graham will be presented with a £2,000 cheque as the Tarmac British Racing champion, the second year in succession in which the Chevrolet Camaro driver has taken the title. It is based on points scored in all races of international or national status throughout the world.

Yachting

Frenchman wins first event in World Cup

Cannes, Feb 4.—Serge Maury, of France, today won the Finn class at the twenty-fourth ski-yachting international competition here, the first event counting towards the newly created World Cup. Maury, a gold medallist at the 1972 Olympic Games, finished well ahead of Jose Luis Doreste, of Spain, to take the Finn class after six races at this southern French resort.

FINN: 1, S. Maury (France), 20 pts; 2, J. Doreste (Spain), 26.1; 3, T. Jungblutt (West Germany), 32.7.

FLYING DUTCHMAN: 1, Vollebrecht and Vollebrecht (Netherlands), 16 pts; 2, Pajot and Pajot (France), 22.7; 3, Diesch and Diesch (West Germany), 33.7.

SOLING: 1, Jensen, Jensen and Wind (Denmark), 8.7 pts; 2, Dubnikov, Samotajkin and Galinov (USSR), 44.1; 3, Bakker, De Vlaeming and Keyser (Netherlands), 45.

TORNADO: 1, Steiner and Schiess (Switzerland), 14 pts; 2, Comyn and Gourmez (France), 20; 3, De Cazenov and Haris (France), 23.1.

470: 1, Crebbin and Clark (GB); 2, Bollens and Bollens (Italy); 3, Fountaine and Fountaine (France).—Reuter.

Motor cycling

Agostini to race two more years

Sydney, Feb 4.—The world motor cycling champion, Giocomo Agostini, of Italy, said today he plans to retire in two years.

Agostini, aged 33, said here he had won his first trophy at the age of 10 and had been totally involved in racing ever since.

The pressure from the press and the public never stopped and he was always expected to win. He hoped to retire "while I am still on top", he said. Agostini will compete in Melbourne's Tourist Trophy race on Sunday.—Reuter.

Tennis

BARCELONA: E. van Dillen (US) [illegible] beat I. El Shafei (Egypt), 6—3, 6—[illegible] E. Dibbs (US) beat B. Lutz (US) 7—5, 6—3.

Cricket

BLOEMFONTEIN: Tour match (lim[illegible]ted overs): D. H. Robins's XI 251 for 5 (G. R. Howarth 164, P. J. [illegible]); Orange Free State 140 for 6 (1). D. H. Robins's XI won by 111 runs.

POOL PROMOTERS ASSOCIATION
CERTIFIED PPA DIVIDENDS
All dividends are subject to rescrutiny
FOR MATCHES PLAYED JANUARY 31st, 1976

VERNONS POOLS, LIVERPOOL
TOP DIVIDEND WINNERS share £214,725 FOR 8 GOES A PENNY
INCLUDING BRISTOL MAN £76,426 * & MR.W.HALL OF HARLOW £39,496

8 GOES A PENNY TREBLE CHANCE—5 DIVIDENDS
23 pts £18,778.00
22½ pts £534.55
22 pts £132.80 FOR ⅛p
21½ pts £19.65
21 pts £4.35

Nothing Barred 4 DRAWS £13.75
Nothing Barred 9 HOMES £2.00
Nothing Barred 5 AWAYS £312.50
3 HOME TEAMS (Failing to score) £2.10
3 AWAY TEAMS (Scoring 2 or more) .. £1.05

All dividends except Treble Chance declared to units of 15p.
Expenses and Commission for 17th January, 1976—34.2%.

LITTLEWOODS POOLS, LIVERPOOL
This week £996,161 SHARE OUT
Including FOUR TOP WINNERS

TREBLE CHANCE
23 PTS (Max.)...£144,469·75
22½ PTS..........£3,439·75
22 PTS..........£1,031·95
21½ PTS..........£100·20
21 PTS..........£25·10
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Treble Chance dividends to units of ⅓p.

4 DRAWS..........£14·75
10 HOMES..........£3·25
4 AWAYS..........£21·00
EASIER 6..........£46·50
Above dividends to units of 10p.

Expenses and Commission 17th Jan. 1976—29·3%

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Bowls of fire: The flames began to fry even those who cowered 30 yards away.

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attered was lit d, a toboggan champion 12 years ago; it was followed, uniquely, by the ignition of a second flame in the original 1964 bowl by Christl Haas, an Alpine champion of the same Games.

Security was strict without being too conspicuous. Any form of container was inspected and our persons, too; even those with official accreditation were frisked; but it was done with dignity and discretion. Every time I surveyed the soldiers strategically posted on high they were more concerned with shooting with cameras than firearms. It was reported that one man bearing a letter of protest was intercepted, but in the press of people there was no way of knowing for sure. He might, for all I know, have been concerned about the waste of fuel as the flames began to fry even those of us who cowered 30 yards or more to leeward.

The teams did their best to present as pretty a picture as possible in the parade, but athletes, in my experience, do not move freely out of their normal uniform. Certainly few have yet succeeded in creating a favourable impression in the heavy clothing needed for winter in these parts. The Bulgarians, in particular, offered a kaleidoscope of uniformly dirty brown. The Russians were resplendent with fur which betokened the usual mass slaughter on the steppes.

The British, an agreeable mixture of red and blue and the gold of the Iliffe sisters' hair, were unnervingly close to Iceland in the parade by the accident of alphabet. One of the smallest teams stood between the two cod-warring nations—Iran, only seven in number, reduced to six when the flag-bearer had taken his place in the centre of the arena.

Where most followed the traditional patterns of *haute montagne couture*, the French produced a confection of chocolate brown, topped by what I am reliably informed were Boy Scout hats of the same colour. Fabienne Serrat, the women's Alpine ski champion, took the opportunity to wave her hat at the crowd, both on entering and leaving, thereby showing her long, shiny locks in their best light.

Spain, too, struck an original note, dressed in psychedelic suits of rainbow hue; but even they had to give best, or should I say worst, to the Austrians, in outfits that were half-gladiatorial, half-spatial, and wholly hideous. The sartorial prize, indeed, was stolen by the eight women accompanying the mayor of Sapporo in colourful kimonos.

In decibel readings the Austrians may have had the edge, but there was little in it between them and the West Germans, and curiously little conviction in what encouragement they did give to their own folk. I fancy the mood will change tomorrow when their champion, Franz Klammer, launches himself down the men's downhill course at Igls.

Couple from Colorado threaten to break Russian domination

From Dennis Bird
Innsbruck, Feb 4

With the 12th Winter Olympic Games only a few hours old, the Soviet Union has already taken a firm grip on the first skating medals. After three compulsory dances, the legendary Moscow husband and wife team of Aleksandr Gorshkov and Lyudmila Pakhomova have a clear lead in the ice dancing.

Their team comrades are second and fourth. There are still two more parts to this event, which does not end until Monday night, but the Kremlin must be well satisfied with the results so far. A detailed analysis of the marks awarded, however, shows that the judges were not entirely of one mind.

Seven of the nine regarded the Gorshkovs as the best of all the 18 couples, but Mrs Pamela Davis, of Britain, and Mrs Dorothy Leaman, of Canada, gave the highest marks to the impressive United States champions, James Millns and Colleen O'Connor. As for second place, there was no unanimity at all.

The Americans were variously rated first, second or third and the Austrian judge put them as low as fifth. Out of the mêlée of place numbers, it was Andrei *Minenkov and Irina Moiseyeva* who snatched second place. As it happens they are the current world champions, having won the 1975 title when the Gorshkovs withdrew through illness.

Their past reputation may have helped them collect the extra few tenths of a point which leaves them precariously ahead of the couple from Colorado. Technically there was little to choose between them. To the English eye, the United States champions looked smoother, more in unison with their music and with each other. They have been trained in British methods by the former world champion, Doreen Denny of London, and if they can move up into second place in tomorrow's original set dance, their clouds could still have a silver lining.

Glyn Watts, Britain's best ice dancer for the past four years, with his partner, Hilary Green, took an unexpected tumble in the warm-up for the last dance—he may have tripped over something on the ice. They skated well but other couples skated better and sixth place was the result. Two years ago they were runners-up for the world title but tonight the Canadian, American and Russian judges thought that their colleagues, Warren Maxwell and Janet Thompson, were as good or better.

Ice dancing has never before featured in the 68 years of Olympic skating and, by a sad irony, the competitors were denied the proud pleasure of marching behind their country's flags. The opening ceremony at Bergisel ski-jump did not finish until 4.0 this afternoon, leaving insufficient time to reach the ice stadium, several miles away, through crowded roads, in time to skate the first compulsory dance an hour later.

Tomorrow night the pair skaters follow the dancers onto ice rink. The redoubtable Muscovite Irina Rodnina will open the defence of her title when the short programme of compulsory movements are skated. It is almost sacrilegious to think of her being beaten. Her present partner, Aleksandr Zaitsev, now her husband, is even better than Alexei Ulanov, with whom she struck gold in Sapporo in 1972.

She seems likely to join a select band of eight figure skaters who have won more than one Olympic title. The others are Gillis Grafstrom and Sonja Henje, who each won three times, Carl Schafer, Richard Button and two fine pairs, the Brunets and the Protopopovs.

ICE DANCING: After three compulsory dances: 1, L. Pakhomova and A. Gorshkov (USSR), 11.0 placements; 2, I. Moiseyeva and A. Minenkov (USSR), 10.6, 9, 10; 3, C. O'Connor and J. Millns (USA), 25.0; 4, 5.96; J. N. Lincoln and G. Karponosov (USSR), 27.2, 33.06; 5, K. R. Regoczy and A. Sallay (Hun), 30.0, 29.92; 6, H. Green and G. Watts (GB), 25.0, 26.29; 7, J. Thompson and W. Maxwell (GB), 26.0, 24.48; 8, M. Cecon and L. Cosvent (It), 27.5, 24.96; 9, T. Wenta-Urban and P. Bojanczyk (Pol), 31.0, 32.16; 10, B. Bernowski and D. Porter (Can), 28.0, 32.64; 11, E. Petrova and V. Petrov (Can), 100.5, 61.32; 12, Barrdell and K. Foster (GB), 106.0, 31.12.

Diane de Leeuw, the world figure skating champion and a strong favourite to win the Olympic gold medal, called a special meeting today to emphatically deny that she has signed a professional contract.

Austrians clamour for downhill victory

From John Hennessy
Innsbruck, Feb 4

The first event of the Olympic Alpine skiing programme, the men's downhill at Igls, near here, offers a number of possibilities. On paper there can be only one winner, Franz Klammer, of Austria, the winner of the race over the same course a year ago and the winner of four of the seven World Cup downhills this winter. But there will be many a slip between gate and *Ziel*. On the Patscherkofel course and, because of its shortness, mistakes are virtually irrecoverable. Thus Klammer, perhaps more unnerved than encouraged by the presence of so many of his compatriots on the course demanding an Austrian triumph, knows that he has to hold his line to the last millimetre.

In the final training run today, the best time, 1min 47.02sec, was achieved by Philippe Roux, of Switzerland, but he asked us not to make too much of it because "we have all been holding something in reserve". The course is icy and he assures us that everyone will be even faster tomorrow than he was today. An unfortunate exception is Werner Grissmann, of Austria, who was moved by helicopter down the hill with damaged leg ligaments after a fall and has had to withdraw.

There have been only three other winners of World Cup downhills this season, of whom Kenneth Read (Canada, 1min 47.98sec), and Herbert Plank (Italy, 1min 47.45sec), were prominent today. David Irwin (Canada), the only other winner, had a time that placed him only 14th. Even so, the Canadians hold a strong hand, with Jim Hunter 10th today and David Murray 12th. Hunter has deep religious convictions and asks for divine intervention before every run. Whatever the reason, his form here has been impressive for a man who was thought not quite to have the stomach for downhill racing.

The Swiss, too, looked strongly, as was to be expected with Roux and Bernhard Russi, the Olympic downhill champion, to lead the way, but it was a surprise to find the Americans so well placed after training. Three of their number were in the first 12, including Karl Anderson, the only man today using skis with holes in the tips. The others who launched them with a fanfare yesterday have returned to their original skis in the belief that there is too little time to familiarize themselves with new equipment. We can now see that yesterday's exercise was a gigantic publicity stunt, and I regret that I was one of those who fell for it.

Russi is drawn badly, No 3, whereas Klammer comes at the end of the first group in 15th position. The Austrian will have the advantage of knowing precisely what he has to do, and of changing his wax if there should be a change in the weather and early times reveal a new situation. He will also have longer for the stomach to churn with nervous tension.

The best of the four Britons, disappointingly, was Stuart Fitzsimmons, disappointingly because we had had such hopes of Konrad Bartelski, the leading British skier, making a determined attack on the Alpine experts. He came down shaking his head, and seems in no mood to offer any sort of challenge. Fitzsimmons has been first in the British team on three successive runs, but even he was more than 5sec behind Roux today.

Marie-Therèse Nadig, one of the favourites for the women's downhill at Axamer-Lizum on Sunday, was injured in slalom training and will be unable to ski tomorrow. She dislocated a shoulder and is having heat treatment in the hope of making a full recovery before Sunday.

Skiing

INNSBRUCK: Men's downhill practice (after five timed runs): 1, P. Roux (Switzerland), 1min 47.02sec; 2, F. Klammer (Austria), 1:47.35; 3, W. Frech (Switzerland), and H. Plank (Italy), 1:47.45; 5, B. Russi (Switzerland), 1:47.60; 6, K. Read (Canada), 1:47.96; 7, G. Jones (US), 1:48.35; 8, E. Bethod (Switzerland), 1:48.38; 9, A. Mill (US), 1:48.67; 10, J. Hunter (Canada), 1:48.74; 11, K. Anderson (US), 1:48.94; 12, D. Murray (Canada), 1:49.01; 13, P. Baker (Norway), 1:49.07; 14, J. Ferall (W Germany), 1:49.08; 15, D. Irwin (Canada), 1:49.50; 16, K. Eberhard (Austria), 1:49.54; 17, A. Steiner (Austria), 1:49.64; 18, G. Thoeni (Italy), 1:49.77; 19, P. Fischer (W Germany), 1:50.00; 20, E. Stricker (Italy), 1:50.22. British placings: 35, S. Fitzsimmons, 1:52.20; 38, K. Bartelski, 1:52.51; 57, A. Stewart, 1:52.74; 46, P. Fuchs, 1:54.05.

Colorado repeats: Divided we stand

Denver, Colorado, Feb 4.—While the spotlight is focused on Innsbruck, Colorado remains as divided today as it was when state residents made history by voting to reject the Games. Almost six years ago the International Olympic Committee approved Denver's bid for the Games. It was not long, however, before questions were being asked about finance, building and ecology.

Proponents of the Games did not help their cause when the initial estimate for putting on the event jumped from $14m (about £7m) to $35m (about £17.5m); the price tag soared to $80m (about £38m) and critics contended that the costs would escalate even higher before the Olympic torch was lit.

Then Colorado voters overwhelmingly rejected the Games. Those who advocated them then still believed they should have been held; those who were the strongest opponents still contend that the state escaped a crushing financial burden.

Richard Lamm, a vocal opponent of Colorado's bid, has since been elected governor. Recalling the issues, Mr Lamm said it was not only the extent of the costs, "but the grandiose self-Colorado mentality." Sam Brown, who organized "citizens for Colorado's future" to oppose the Games, was elected state treasurer. Other members of Mr Brown's group have key posts in Mr Lamm's government. Gary Hart, another anti-Olympic voice, is now a senator.

Supporters of the Olympic bid included John Love, the state Governor at that time, and the then Lieutenant-Governor, John Vanderhoof. Mr Love quit the governorship and Mr Vanderhoof, who headed the Colorado Olympic Commission, ran against Mr Lamm for Governor and was defeated.

Mr Vanderhoof today thinks that the Games would have cost over $100m (about £47m), while Car Detemple, then general secretary of the Denver Olympic committee, still believes that the cost would have been only $35m. "Because everything was conditioned on after use, we were not throwing anything away", Mr Detemple explained.

Denver's veteran mayor, William McNichols, contends that the Olympic vote did not really have the political significance that some claimed. He said the voters' rejection of the Olympics was due to mismanagement and blunders by promoters of the event.

Winter Olympic events today

8.0-10.0: Toboggan: Men and women's singles, second run.
8.0-11.0: Nordic skiing: Men's 30km.
9.0-11.0: Speed skating: Women's 1,500 metres.
11.30-1.0: Skiing: Men's downhill.
1.0-7.0: Ice Hockey: Group B: Yugoslavia v Switzerland; Romania v Japan; Austria v Bulgaria.
5.0-7.0: Figure skating: Compulsory dances.
7.0-10.0: Figure skating: Pairs, short programme.

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issued the necessary documents and directed to the Hotel Olympia which, despite its resounding name, proved little more than a pension with no facilities for journalists. It was far from the press centre, and the more than 30 representatives of leading Russian newspapers and magazines had to share the one and only telephone at the porter's desk, which did not function very well.

Nikolai Kiselev, Anatoly Korshunov and Stanislav Tokarev awaited their turn to telephone their first story to *Sovyetsky Sport*. They said they realized the heads of the Olympic organizing committee had announced that the present Games would be without frills, economical, but at the same time practical. It sounded convincing; but was it practical not to provide quarters for the journalists conveniently located near the press centre, as was done at all previous Olympic Games? Such treatment, they contended, was hardly conducive to favourable publicity for the Innsbruck Olympics.

The trio had arrived with chips on their shoulders. They described their path to Innsbruck as "hardly strewn with roses". From the start there had been trouble with obtaining accreditation despite two weeks of constant long-distance telephone calls to Mrs Strauss, of the Olympic press service. Neither they nor any of their Russian colleagues had received their press credentials before leaving Moscow, although the large deposits demanded by the organizing committee had been paid last summer.

Without impugning the sincerity of the three Russian sports writers' complaints from Innsbruck, now that the boot is on the other foot, they sound almost like a word-for-word playback of complaints by Western sports writers who covered events in the Soviet Union at different times.

Tobogganing

INNSBRUCK: Olympic single toboggan practice: Huang Liu-Chong (China), 55.651sec (one run); E. Rinn (W Germany), 1min 44.901sec; J. Fendt (W Germany), 1:45.452; M. Schmid (Austria), 1:45.911; D. Bremze (USSR), 1:46.946; A. Winkler (W Germany), 1:46.328.

Bobsleigh

IGLS: Olympic two-man bobsleigh practice (two runs): 1, M. Nehmer and B. Germeshausen (E Germany), 1min 52.26sec; 2, F. Sperling and A. Schwab (Austria), 1:52.75; 3, D. Delle Karth and F. Koelbl (Austria), 1:53.07; 4, R. Schauerhammer and R. Bethge (E Germany), 1:53.21; 5, G. Alvera and F. Perruquet (Italy), 1:53.44; 6, G. Hehli and F. Ohlwaerter (W Germany), 1:53.46.

A delicate balance is needed at the peak

From John Hennessy
Innsbruck, Feb 4

A few paragraphs which appeared in some editions of this newspaper yesterday have stirred up a hornets' nest. There has been almost an hysterical reaction at the offices of the National Ski Federation of Britain (NSF) in London, and the racing secretary, Robin Bailey, has been breathing fire against *The Times* here. Since the feeling is mutual it is perhaps as well that we pursued each other in vain last night.

I have, however, had the chance to talk at length to Kenneth Dilnott-Cooper, vice-president of the NSF and the senior man here, and I see no reason to withdraw a word in the article in question about the decision to send two British skiers, Piers Iliffe and Quentin Sutton, to Santa Caterina and Kitzbühel respectively.

Had Mr Bailey been as frank as Mr Dilnott-Cooper, the NSF would not have attracted the bad publicity that has been their lot, here and elsewhere. *The Daily Telegraph's* skiing correspondent will confirm that Mr Bailey at no time said that there was an element of disciplinary action in Iliffe's case (indeed, he specifically denied it), and that it had been provisionally agreed that Sutton might be sent away after arrival for slalom training.

If there was one word in my article that was most resented it was "banished". I did, however, qualify it with the phrase "if that is not too strong a word", and it was not unjustified within the terms of the conversation between Mr Bailey, on the one hand, and *The Daily Telegraph* correspondent and myself on the other.

So far as Iliffe is concerned, and he was the main figure in my piece (short as it was), it seems that his selection has rather gone to his head, at least in the opinion of Mr Bailey, and the decision to send him to Santa Caterina was partly designed to bring him down a peg or two. It baffles understanding that Mr Bailey did not make it clear to us at the time, when, as he knew, we were trying to get to the bottom of an extraordinary situation.

But the puzzle does not end there. Iliffe is the British giant slalom champion and, whatever his results may have been since winning the title, he must surely have been a candidate for the event; but he races in Italy on February 7 and 8 and cannot be considered for the slalom on February 14. Big deal.

Sutton has returned here, having, so far as I can gather, spent two days training in the four days he has been absent. Whether his return is due to the adverse publicity I cannot say. Certainly nothing Mr Bailey said on Monday led either of his inquisitors to believe that Sutton would be returning so soon, if at all.

I asked Mr Dilnott-Cooper this morning how he would have dealt with the problem facing Mr Bailey. He was understandably cautious. "One can only take this kind of decision if one has been directly in charge as manager or trainer of the team", he said. "Having said that, I personally would have been very unwilling to break up a team, even for a short period of training or a race elsewhere, during an Olympic Games. Even if a racer is not taking part in a particular event there is so much to be learnt by watching the training and absorbing the atmosphere of a great occasion."

I reminded him that he had had his difficulties as manager of the British team during the Winter Olympics at Grenoble in 1968, when there had been friction between leading members of the men's team. He preferred "tension" to "friction", and said he had resolved the matter with "heart-to-heart" talks with the men concerned.

Mr Dilnott-Cooper said it was obvious that, however experienced a racer was, the Olympic Games was the peak of his career, and it is natural for him to have a certain amount of tension and require understanding and help on a psychological level. "On such occasions a delicate balance has to be drawn between what is best for the racer himself and the team as a whole."

The action taken against Iliffe has to be considered in a wider context, since two of his sisters, Valentina (the British champion) and Serena, are members of the British team. I suggested to Mr Dilnott-Cooper that Valentina, a twin to Piers, would be emotionally disturbed by this development, to say nothing of the younger sister, just turned 16.

He had seen the elder sister last night and she did not seem to have been affected, though he appreciated that she would probably have been upset at first. This was, however, an overall British team of 12 Alpine skiers, six of each sex, and he would have hoped that in such unusual circumstances the manager of the British women's team, Marie Goldberger, would have been consulted. With respect, I begged leave to doubt it.

We should be spared any repetition of this unhappy episode. Now that we have a man of Mr Dilnott-Cooper's seniority here, no Draconian decisions will be taken without reference to him, and if I know him (and I do) he would take a humane view. As the man responsible for raising funds for the Olympic venture, he must know more than anyone that he will find it hard to raise money, to say nothing of racers, if there was a fear that the carrot would be unreasonably denied them at the end of a long and costly journey.

First gold medal likely to be won by Russian

Innsbruck, Feb 4.—A Russian speed skater, 25-year-old Tatiana Averina, could win the first gold medal of the Winter Olympic Games here tomorrow. Miss Averina, the world record-holder, is favoured to win the 1,500 metres and should beat the existing Olympic record in the process.

Her world record of 2min 9.90sec was set at the high-altitude rink at Medeo a year ago, but even at the considerably lower level here she will probably beat the 1972 Olympic record of 2min 20.85sec, set by Dianne Holum, of the United States.

Miss Averina will also be a favourite in the 1,000 metres, in which she holds a second world record.

Snow reports from European resorts

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	off Piste	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Champéry	40	80	Good	Powder	Snow	-1
Fresh snow on worn base						
Crans	40	80	Fair	Varied	Snow	-3
Bare patches but now snowing						
Davos	60	170	Good	Varied	Föhn	1
All pistes excellent						
Les Ménuires	50	85	Good	Powder	Snow	—
Good skiing conditions						
Saas Fee	30	95	Good	Powder	Cloud	-1
New snow on good base						
Villars	25	80	Fair	Varied	Snow	0
New snow on worn piste						
Wengen	40	90	Good	Varied	Snow	1
Wind blown crust off piste						
Zurs/Lech	135	185	Good	Varied	Cloud	-1
Good skiing conditions						

In the above snow reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
AUSTRIA					
Axamer-Lizum	—	105	Good	—	-4
Badgastein	20	75	Good	—	-2
Berwang	80	110	Good	—	-4
Brand	50	150	Good	—	-1
Ischgl	70	140	Good	—	-3
Lech	25	80	Good	—	-4
Mayrhofen	10	100	Good	—	-4
Mittersdorf	80	220	Good	—	-3
Saalbach	20	200	Good	—	-3
Serfaus	25	120	Good	—	-6
Wildschonau	—	170	Good	—	-4
FRANCE					
Auron	120	180	Good	Cloud	—
Alpe d'Huez	50	100	Good	Cloud	—
Chamonix	15	100	Good	Cloud	—
Courchevel	40	100	Good	Sun	—
Gourette	95	300	Good	Cloud	—
La Clusaz	75	100	Good	Sun	—
La Plagne	50	100	Good	Sun	—
Le Corbier	50	100	Good	Sun	—
Les Deux Alpes	50	200	Good	Cloud	—
Les Gets	35	100	Good	Sun	—
Méribel	15	115	Good	Sun	—
Morzine	40	150	Good	Sun	—
Pra-Loup	50	120	Good	Sun	—
St Gervais	40	80	Good	Sun	—
Superdévoluy	60	160	Good	Cloud	—
NORWAY					
Finse	220	350	Good	—	-22
Geilo	50	60	Good	—	-15
Gol	55	68	Good	—	-20
Lillehammer	50	51	Good	—	-11
Norefjell	50	60	Good	—	-9
Oslo	25	45	Good	—	-10
Rjukan	75	100	Good	—	-17
Voss	120	140	Good	—	-5

East Germans dominate final training

Igls, Feb 4.—East Germany dominated the final training in the bobsleigh today. Reinhard Nehmer and Bernhard Germeshausen, newcomers to the competition, were fastest on both runs on the artificial ice track here and are favoured to win the competition which takes place on Friday and Saturday.

Two Austrian teams finished second and third, but the reigning Olympic champion, Wolfgang Zimmerer, of West Germany, seems to be struggling. Zimmerer, with a new brakeman, Manfred Schumann, has never looked happy on the track. Indeed, they were fortunate to be selected instead of the third reserve team.

The British party have had a dispiriting time in training here, where Tony Nash and Robin Dixon won Britain's last Winter Olympic gold medal 12 years ago. The two-man bobs, piloted by Mark Agar and Jack Price, finished 18th and 19th out of 24. A yawning gulf of over three and a half seconds separates them from first place.

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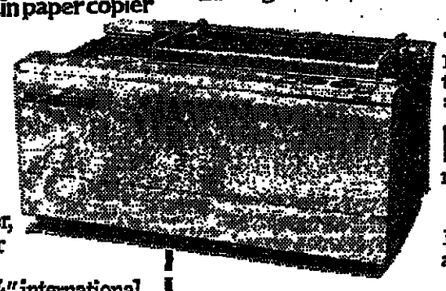
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champion in gan event

Feb 4.—The East ld champion, Margit recorded the fastest first run of the Olym- s individual toboggan onight.

mann had an advant- hundredth of a second a Scheftschik, of West n the 817-metre run- ld, of East Germany, and Antonia Mayr, of rth in the first of the o be held over the next

TOBOGGAN: First run: mann (EG), 42.854sec; 2, ik (WG), 42.863; 3, U. G), 42.925; 4, A. Mayr 949; 5, E-M. Wendse 07; 6, M. Graf (Aus), E. Demleitner (WG), A. Schaffeger (Aus), J. Szadejka (Cz), 43.360; alczyk (Pol), 43.631; 11, (Pol), 43.967; 12, S. 44.056.
TOBOGGAN: First run: 1, EG), 52.581; 2, J. Fendt 594; 3, A. Winkler (WG), S. Hildenhammer (WG), H. Winckler (EG), 52.96; (EG), 52.91; 7, R. Schmid 935; 8, M. Schmid (Aus), D. Bremze (USSR), 52.98; acher (Aus), 53.127; 11, (USSR), 53.485; 12, K.), 53.916. British placings Carvalho, 56.340; 37, R. 56.721; 40, J. Palmer, 57.950.—Reuter.

ntelman

eb —Hans van e Netherlands, today metres in 1min 59.12 performance in the this year.—Agence

A letter from the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding

An aberration in editorial policy

Dear Mr Rees-Mogg,

It will come as no surprise to you to know that many members of our Council have been disturbed by the imbalance—amounting, as they see it, to actual bias—which *The Times* has displayed over the past three months in its treatment of the controversy regarding Zionism and racism.

We fully understand both the difficulties of your position in handling a sensitive issue of this kind and the pressures to which you may be subjected. It is not normally our practice to complain about editorial policy, particularly in the case of *The Times*, since we fully accept that an editor ought to decide for himself how to treat controversial issues. In particular, we are very anxious not to follow the example of Zionists in this country who persistently badger and try to browbeat editors about their handling of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

However, the information we have just received that you have refused to publish a reply by Mr Said Hammami, the PLO Representative in London, to the article by Mr Abba Eban, the former Foreign Minister of Israel, which you published on December 29, leaves us with no choice but to bring to your notice the grave disquiet which we feel (and which is shared by our Chairmen and all members of our Executive Committee) in regard not only to this specific instance of bias but also regarding your whole handling of the controversy about Zionism since it began to attract attention in October. It does seem to us that, in this instance, *The Times* has fallen sadly below the level of impartiality and objectivity which it normally sets itself and for which it has justly earned a unique reputation.

During the past three months, you have published four centre-page articles denouncing the action of a majority of Member States at the United Nations in equating Zionism with racism. These were the articles by Bernard Levin on October 22, by Professor Walter Laqueur on November 13, by Mr Eban on November 17 and again by Mr Eban on December 29. (There was also a further article by Mr Levin on December 16 in which he eulogized Mr Daniel Moynihan, the United States Representative at the United Nations, for "his speech on the infamous Zionist resolution".) During the same time you have published only one article, that by Mr Said Hammami on November 28, from the other side. In terms of space you gave 129 column inches on your centre page to the defence of Zionism and only 31 column inches to the reasons why it is under attack. We are informed that it was only with great difficulty that you were persuaded to publish the article by Mr Hammami and that even so it was truncated. We are also informed that during this period you refused to publish an article by Sir Anthony Nutting setting out the arguments, which certainly deserve examination and an answer, for regarding Zionism as a cause of racism in Israel. You have now aggravated the lack of balance by giving space to Mr Eban for a second time and then refusing to give Mr Hammami an opportunity to reply. Since Mr Eban had chosen in his second article to criticize Mr Hammami personally (without, however, attempting to answer his factual arguments), this refusal seems especially indefensible.

During this same period you have published in your correspondence columns 16 letters from Zionist supporters as against nine letters from critics of Zionism. In terms of space in your correspondence columns, Zionists have been given 97½ column inches and critics of Zionism only 50. The reason for this imbalance cannot be that you have not received plenty of letters from the latter meriting publication. We have received copies from our members of a score or so of letters they have sent to *The Times* but which have been refused publication. We attach to this letter a selection of some of the letters on record here.* We believe that, if the correspondence had been handled with the customary impartiality shown by *The Times*, some at least of these letters would have been published. We notice, incidentally, that some of the Zionist letters which you have published have been from officers of Zionist organizations (such as Dr S. I. Levenberg and Mr Sidney Shipton) but that none of the letters which have been sent by us have been published.

We are particularly disturbed by your refusal to publish a letter dated November 26 which was sent to you by the Ambassador of Iraq replying to the long letter which you published from a certain Mr M. S. Basri on November 24. In that letter Mr Basri used the UN resolution as a peg on which to hang an intemperate attack on the Government of Iraq. It seems to us indefensible that you should have allowed publication of this attack on a foreign Government and then have refused to publish an answer from its Ambassador in London. To assist you in looking into this specific instance, we enclose a copy of the Ambassador's letter and of the reply (in our view thoroughly inadequate) which he received from *The Times*. Your handling of this matter was in sharp contrast with your action in publishing immediately (on October 28) a letter from the Ambassador of Israel protesting—with what must have seemed to many of your readers absurd vehemence—against a remark in your leading article on the previous day which he chose to regard as a "monumental sneer" at Israel but which was certainly far less offensive than Mr Basri's remarks about the Government of Iraq. True, the latter were contained in a letter to *The Times*, not in one of your own articles. But as editor you took the responsibility for publishing Mr Basri's allegations. We notice that, after informing the Iraqui Ambassador that the correspondence was closed, you reopened it for the publication of a pro-Zionist letter from Lady Gaitskell on December 20.

It appears to us that there was also a lack of balance in the space given to reporting reactions to the UN resolution, although we appreciate that this is less easy to establish since it can be argued that the protests against the resolution in Western and pro-Israeli circles were more newsworthy than the approval it may have received elsewhere. But the reports you published on October 25 ("Jerusalem Mayor tilts at UN on Zionism"), October 31 ("Jurists take UN to task over attack on Zionism"), November 12 ("Widespread anger in Israel at UN vote"), November 13 ("Israel calls conference in response to Zionism vote"), November 27 ("Statement on Zionism is defended by WCC") and December 19 ("Walk-out in Unesco after Zionism vote") all gave publicity to Zionist views without any comparable coverage of anti-Zionist opinion. On November 4 *Europa*, with which *The Times* is associated, gave two whole pages to Yigal Allon, the present Foreign Minister of Israel, to expound Israel's policy, and this included a passage defending Zionism as merely "a modern expression of Judaism".

As we have said, we are not alone in being gravely disturbed by what seems to us an aberration in the established editorial policy of *The Times*. We hope that you will examine carefully what we have said and be able to reassure us that this does not represent any considered departure by *The Times* from its normal standards of impartiality.

Letters in *The Times*

Pro-Zionist

Date	Name	Col Ins
Oct 21	Miss Iris Murdoch	3½
	Mr Alan Sillitoe	3½
Oct 25	Dr Israel Berkovitch	5½
Oct 30	Mr George Mandel	2
	Mr Sidney Shipton	5½
	Mr R. J. Collins	3½
Nov 15	Prof David Daiches	10
Nov 17	Mr L. A. Daniels	1½
Nov 20	Mrs N. W. McGuire	8½
Nov 22	Prof Walter Laqueur	5½
	Dr Jacob Gewirtz	10
	Rabbi Frank Hellner	12
	Dr S. I. Levenberg	7½
	Mr Aubrey Young	1½
Nov 24	Mr M. S. Basri	10
Dec 20	Lady Gaitskell	7½
		97½

Anti-Zionist

Oct 25	Mr C. J. Walker	4
Oct 27	Mr Christopher Mayhew	5½
Nov 17	Miss Penelope Turing	3½
	Mr Simon Loveday	1½
Nov 20	Mr Malise Ruthven	14
	Dr John Shack	5½
	Dr Musa Mazzawi	7
Nov 22	Mr Mohammad Tarbush	3
Nov 25	Dr Jamal Nasir	6
		50

MICHAEL ADAMS
JOHN REDDAWAY

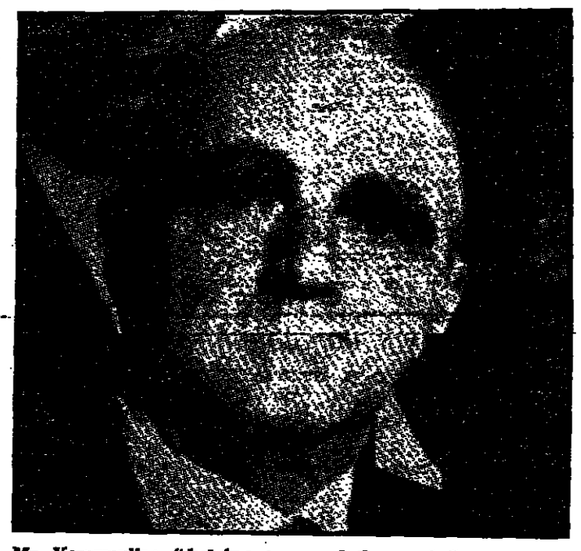
* The following wrote the unpublished letters referred to: Mr Michael Adams (2 letters), Mr Roger Hardy, Mrs Y. E. Canaan, Mr Robert Swann, Sir John Richmond, Kathryn Tongue, Mr M. T. Bremridge, Mr R. J. Progin (2), Lady Richmond, Mrs Marion Woolfson (2), Mr John Reddaway, Mr C. M. Pridham, Mr Andrew Faulds, MP, Mr Mick Ashley, Mr Colin Jackson, MP, Mr Abdul-Malik Al-Yasin (Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq), and there were three unsigned letters.

How Greece's swing to the left could lead to big changes in the rest of Europe

The steady transformation of Greece in recent months into a starry-eyed admirer of nineteenth-century socialism is a development which cannot be easily dismissed as a local or insignificant one, especially in view of expected Soviet gains in Yugoslavia after Marshal Tito's death, and the fact that Italy is now poised to usher into western Europe the first communist government in its history.

Politicians right across the political spectrum in Greece, including the Right, are possessed by the idea that socialism today—an ideology which has been anathema in Greece for generations—is what the country desperately needs. Admittedly confusing it all with what is everywhere else known as "social welfare policies", Mr Karamanlis has personally helped spread this mania from its natural and previously atrophic milieu (the communists and Mr Andreas Papandreou's Panhellenic Socialist Movement) to his own New Democracy Party. He has been consistently moving the country left almost in direct response to the grandiose pronouncement of Mr George Mavros, leader of the Centre Union New Forces Party, that *his* was the only party capable of bringing "true" socialism to Greece.

The explanation for this political metamorphosis in Greece is that the pendulum was bound to swing away from everything that the Colonels stood for during the seven long years of their unpopular rule. But, equally, it seems that Mr Karamanlis hopes in this way to isolate and ultimately disarm his adversaries by moving faster (but, as he privately explains, only temporarily) to the left than anyone ever expected. Classic though it may be for outmanoeuvring one's enemies, the stratagem certainly does not look as if it is working in Greece today.



Mr Karamanlis: "helping to spread the mania".

The obvious political vacuum the experiment has already created, by abandoning and leaving practically unrepresented in Parliament a sizable proportion of the electorate, the Conservatives, who certainly voted for Mr Karamanlis, has by now literally thrown the country between the devil and the deep blue sea. Accordingly, another coup d'état to "redress the balance" could easily be in the making.

In the midst of this confusion, the country is naturally falling easy prey to organized communist advances, especially in the university world and the labour movement. And, increasingly liberal with the left but not with the people, the Government is further fanning the flames of dissent with its galloping anti-Americanism, designed to keep it politically competitive. Still worse, serious resentment is spreading not only against some 15 major investment contracts signed during the dictatorship, but also against the 49 companies still in covert control of more than half the nation's total assets. This has brought about the Government's somewhat panicky decision to challenge big capital in terms of a "special contribution" tax enforced upon large enterprises in order to help balance the 1976 budget, and further explains an earlier decision to place under Government administration certain big banks, on the ground that currency violations had been committed.

Much as expected, foreign investors are not encouraged by this new climate of instant socialism and fuzzy state-interventionism, despite the Government's repeated efforts to assure businessmen in private that it is all a passing nightmare. The mess steadily deepens with domestic resentment from workers badly hurt by the current recession—especially the growing crisis in shipping and the consequent dropping of remittances from Greeks abroad. With almost no provision being made by the Government to create jobs for new workers pouring into the labour force as western Europe cuts back on emigrant labour, and now that the EEC is formally urged (following a special report submitted earlier this week) to delay Greek entry, the danger of a big swing to the left in Greece itself is all too real.

Even more important, however, are the long-term implications of this new phenomenon for political stability in Europe. If one visualized this process in a more general southern European context, one could hardly fail to identify a growing pattern which could well be leading us to a progressive loss of personal freedom and a lower standard of life in western Europe, with greater likelihood of a breakdown of the European Community.

In the short run, Soviet prospects in Europe could be said to be benefiting. Clearly, the Greek experiment, cross-fertilized by actual developments in Italy and expected ones in Yugoslavia, also mirrors the rapidly rising fortunes of the left in France, Portugal and Spain. Greece is fast becoming a focal point of Soviet expansionist activity. The special relationship between Greece and the Soviet Union is growing—both in terms of the Balkan talks already in progress under the auspices of Greece (acting in harmony with Soviet wishes), and unprecedented Soviet naval power in the eastern Mediterranean.

But in the long term, whatever the amalgam of socialism/communism in southern Europe may prove to be, it will almost certainly allow more individual freedom than anything eastern Europe could ever hope for. So eastern European countries, probably led by the Romanians or the Czechs, would undoubtedly choose one day to struggle pursuit of a more liberal way of life—and one similar to what the western communist experience might be by then.

Perhaps the Russians should keep in mind this picture—far-fetched though it may seem to them today—as they try to spread their way of life all over southern Europe. For at the end of the day they may simply have to lie down and die in agony.

The EEC Commissioners, understandably appalled by the massive economic cost that Greek entry into the European Economic Community would entail, should happily forget the poor economics of the deal and instead look at what lies ahead on the more distant political horizon. Welcoming Greece to the Community, and getting on with the job of discovering at last an identity for itself, consistent with the kind of individual freedom we have all come to cherish over hundreds of years, should be western Europe's first priority.

Prof Nicos Devletoglu

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Ronald Butt

Pornography: A question of first principles

Whatever else is arguable about the subject, it is undeniable that when Parliament last legislated on pornography its intention was to prohibit it. The preamble of the Obscene Publications Act of 1959 stated its intention as being "to provide for the protection of literature; and to strengthen the law concerning pornography". That law having proved not strong enough, Parliament then passed the 1964 Act "to strengthen the law for preventing the publication for gain of obscene matter". The intention of the law now on the Statute Book is therefore clear.

It is also undeniable that the intention of the law has been systematically destroyed by the perfectly legal exploitation of its letter. How precisely this has been done was succinctly set out in the analysis of Lord Denning in 1972, to which a leading article in *The Times* drew attention last week. What has happened here is, of course, what has happened in other recent changes in the social law. The apparently innocuous thin end of a powerful wedge has been lightly but firmly driven into the structure of the law's intention and then banged home, by blow after well-timed blow, each one a little harder, until the efficacy of the law is shattered.

If anyone had told the legislators of 1959 or 1964 what would be the consequence of the drafting of the Acts they had approved, can anyone believe that they would have approved them? However, we must confront the facts as they are. Judging the present state of the law by what has happened in the courts, it appears that pornography involving any kind of heterosexual or homosexual activity is secure and some sado-masochistic material may be. But at least so far, pornography involving children and animals is not.

Having been manoeuvred into tolerating the one sort, however, the community is now faced with similar claims on behalf of the other.

At the stage we have reached, the problem facing the community cannot be sensibly approached by rhetoric or by legal nit-picking. It requires the application of first principles—which means determining what our first principles are. Does pornography matter? Is there a tenable distinction to be drawn between different sorts of pornography?

A prevailing view, particularly favoured in what are called radical circles, and among some who make claims for the therapeutic value of "soft" pornography, is that we ought to be worried about violence rather than sex (which also appeared to be the censors, for instance). But there is also violent sex, which seems not to worry some people who purport to be worried about other sorts of "violence" such as self-defence in war. So can a line be drawn and if so, where?

The more one examines the question, the plainer it becomes that there is no logical place where such a line can be drawn. Pornography, like peace, is indivisible. Of course, some pornography is much worse than other: the more it suggests physical cruelty the worse it usually is. But all pornography, even what is usually called "soft", which today is harder than most people think, has certain things in common. One of the essential qualities is the exploitation of those who provide the material.

It is commonly said by the defenders of pornography that people are entitled to read and see what they like. In cold logic, untempered by any humane wisdom, they may be. But by analogy, people who earned profits by sending children into mines and factories in the nineteenth century could claim the right to do so on the grounds that the consumer was entitled to burn what coal he liked. Today, we are retrospectively appalled by this inhumanity. Yet the human beings who are exploited and degraded for the commercial prosperity of the pornographers are in a very similar state.

The defence lawyers whose skill is regularly involved in pornography cases, the travelling circus of self-appointed expert witnesses who testify to the benefit of pornography, all plead, as a matter of their own conscientious position, the freedom of the individual to have pornography "if he likes". Non-censorship is, to them, a matter of conviction or conscience. That means, we can assume, that they lay claim to the possession of something approximating to a conscience.

The rest of us, therefore, are entitled to ask them what their conscience tells them about the destroyed lives of the persons who have been drawn, whether by addiction or commercial pressures or both, to take part in the activities that provide the material for pornography. One is entitled to ask whether it is their opinion that nothing that a human being can do to his or her own body or mind is capable of degrading either.

What do they think of such pornographic pictures as I have recently had the misfortune to be shown, which involve small children in the most unspeakable and degrading activities which, to see, would make a decent man or woman weep? I am told that they do not come from this country. Some come from Asia, a faraway place of which we know little. Do our gallant and flippant upholders of freedom sleep easier when they defend such cases, because they know that those who provide the material for such pornography live a long way off? Do they feel, in their consciences, nothing for the trade which involves women in acts with animals? For these are the next items on the agenda. Will there be nothing but wit and weasel words in defence of these, too?

Now, of course, it will be said that most pornography is not like that. The "straight" pornography which involves, let us say, the photographed copulation of couples of either sex is said to be different. It is called "soft" and, whereas an ordinary individual who suddenly had the bestial material to which I have referred put in front of him would be repelled, the first reaction of an ordinary individual to "soft" pornography could well be erotic. Yet there is a clear connexion between both sorts.

A senior police officer who has had to deal with this business put it like this: "You won't understand the business of pornography if you don't recognize it as an addiction. There would be something the matter with an ordinary man if he did not react at all to "soft", erotic pornography when he saw it. But to people who make use of "soft" pornography it very soon isn't enough. They have to have something harder. The business of the pornographer is to develop the addiction and provide harder and harder material to meet it."

This, of course, is the answer to those who make a too easy distinction between the pornography of comparatively straight sex and pornography of violent, sadistic and perverted sex. There is, too easily, a progression from one to the other for some of the more vulnerable or disturbed people in society. The history of the Roman arena instructs us how the appetite of a people can be created by what is fed to it.

In the Colosseum, the mob (and the upper classes) of Rome were systematically addicted by their rulers to frenzy and titillation of ... tic violence by a steady ... gression from less to ... until the Roman che... itself was conditioned ... coarse insensibility to ... ing. When the games ... exported to Greece, the ... were at first permitted ... no further than wounding ... gradually the violence ... creased as the initial ... was replaced by acceptanc...

We are, it is clear, exp... those who provide mater... pornography. This is as ... in a different degree, ... pretty girl who exposes ... to the camera as it is of ... lity. If the trade were ... there, fewer would do ... themselves for it—and ... ought to ask how far the ... climate in which it is ... able to be so blasé about ... matters assists the involv... of girls in it.

We also exploit the co... er of pornography, for ... can be no honest doubt ... is not simply a matter ... ting people have what ... like but of manipulating ... into a taste for what the ... nographer has to sell. If ... taste creation can be said ... true about tobacco, how ... not be true of pornogr... which (if only in its "so... forms) is now freely avai... in the newsagent's shops ... children go. What is euphe... tically called "soft" porn... phy is now not infrequ... passed among impression... children. It is disingenuous ... pretend that legislation to ... hibit the sale to minors ... stop this.

Many people exposed ... pornography may suffer ... great harm. Few may ... altogether unaffected by ... diminution of women whic... its effect. Some, if only mar... ally, may be psychologic... damaged in a way that will ... help their chances of a st... and happy marriage—which ... still, after all, what most per... want. Not least, as in the b... called *Inside Linda Lovel...* much pornography which ... tends to be a sex manual ... nothing more than a disea... fantasy: in this case one wh... advocates some things wh... are dangerous if they are ... physically impossible.

Finally, it really is importa... not to be gulled by the cla... that when (soft?) pornograp... is freely available, the s... feited human mind will rej... it. This was the argume... when the period of "liber... tion" began, but the growth ... pornography of the pa... decade refutes it. As each ne... generation arrives new custo... ers are found, and the ... dence of sexual crime and ... ual malaise around us ha... supports the bogus conten... that pornography has pro... a happier or more sex... stable society.

It is, in the end, not a ... ter of quibbling about ... words of statutes; it is ... priorities and first princi... Nor is there a question of ... pressing literature. The ... rial in question is now ... even defended as literatur... those warped and th... reporters who cast them... as auxiliary counsel for ... defence, and patronis... uphold the right of ... mortals to be supplied ... what they themselves afte... despise. We are not inhi... by the particular wording ... the statute that lets pornog... phy through for any subs... tial works of art which ... wise would have been ... pressed.

The question now is not ... do with the claims of art ... with the larger business ... life. The exercise of debat... skills is no longer relevant ... is time we let ourselves ... centrate on what, with ... accumulation of human ... dom, we know to be right ... act accordingly.

The Times Diary

Waging war by advertisement

The attempt by Frank Stagg, the Provisional IRA hunger striker, to turn himself into another Irish martyr has led to a bizarre propaganda war in Belfast's only Catholic-owned daily newspaper, the *Irish News*. For weeks the paper has been carrying up to 30 assorted display advertisements every morning pledging support for Stagg and invoking an assortment of saints on his behalf. Most are written in the emotive language favoured by republicans, often ending with the slogan: "Blessed are those who hunger for justice."

This campaign reached its peak on Tuesday when people and prisoners from all over Ulster pledged their solidarity for Stagg in a full page advertisement. It hit out at "those gombeen politicians north and south who remain silent while Frank Stagg is slowly murdered by the British establishment."

All this was too much for the Northern Ireland Office who yesterday morning hit back in kind by taking a full page of their own in the same paper. It was a highly professional adman's presentation of the British case, strikingly laid out and stating facts which the Government feel have been distorted in the hysterical build-up to Stagg's expected death and funeral procession through Ireland. Emphasis was laid on Stagg's lack of any personal connexion with Ulster, and the antagonism expressed recently by his sister to the repeated Provisional threats of retaliation.

Hush hush

Extraordinary—and apparently successful—steps were taken to prevent premature disclosure of the Concorde decision by William Coleman, American Secretary of Transportation. Washington may have become the leakiest capital in the world, but the Coleman decision was better defended than the British budget.

Yesterday the British and French governments were supposed to get word first, but only just. American representatives were to have the word delivered to them at 5.30 pm in London and Paris, respectively—15 minutes after Coleman began his news conference. The press in Washington and the British and French diplomatic representatives there got the decision about 90 minutes earlier—but only to read.

They were locked in separate reading rooms and not allowed to use the telephones or pass copies to the outside until Coleman finished speaking and answering questions. Only then—at about 6.15 pm—would they be free to tell the world.

Glamour

It would, Rank Leisure Services promised, be "the most glamorous event in the history of Dalston"—an attempt to recreate the excitement of a West End premiere at an E8 address. Police were duly on duty on the forecourt of the Dalston Odeon, and a bevy of relief managers waited in the foyer. The crowds, however, were missing.

Invitations had gone to a guest list covering two pages. "Dress optional", they stated, and some publicans and the local travel agent had indeed donned dinner jackets for the occasion. So had the Mayor of Hackney.

The managers were uncertain which stars would actually come out on such a cold evening. "George Sewell's got a show tonight, but he'll be along later. Arthur Mullard should be coming, but we haven't seen him yet. Queenie Watts is and I think Glyn Edwards is there too."

Inside the cinema a pop group took nearly an hour to assemble their equipment on stage for a live performance before the film, and the auditorium was only a quarter filled. "We have more in than this most nights", said the usherette. "It's not a bad place usually".

Gadgetry

The Entertaining Electron is a lecture worth missing an evening's television to see. The Institute of Electrical Engineers' Faraday lecture for this season, it is presented by Howard Steele, the Independent Broadcasting Authority's director of television, and it has played to packed houses in Cardiff, Bristol, Sheffield, Birmingham and now London.

The lecture is intended to unravel the technical mysteries of television, making it more comprehensible through a wealth of technological gadgetry and a production team of 15.

Steele and his assistant, Dr Boris Townsend, mixed their talk about the frequency spectrum, megaHerz and digital techniques with remarks like "more houses in Britain have colour television than are connected to the telephone, and more have TV than main drainage".

One demonstration showed how it was technically possible already to dial your bank and have your statement displayed on the television screen at home, or to ring home and leave a message on the television warning the family that you would be late. "We will turn your domestic television into a computer terminal", he promised.

Good friends

A breakthrough in Anglo-Chinese understanding has been achieved with the Chinese Embassy in London agreeing for the first time to assist in a blatantly commercial promotion of Chinese food. My reporter, Alan Hamilton, reports from the unlikely location of an American-owned hotel in Slough.

The idea of inviting the Chinese chargé d'affaires to help organize a Chinese festival was that of Ro... Adley, Conservative MP ... Christchurch and Lymin... and vice-chairman of ... British-Chinese Parliamentary Group. Adley is also Europ... marketing director of Hol... Inns, where the promotion is place.



For the inaugural feast yesday, a nine-course Kwant... style lunch lating two ho... Adley brought along Chu ... Yuan, the chargé d'affai... and a clutch of identical... dressed senior embassy st... Chu had a bad dose of 'flu, ... stayed only long enough ... make an innocuous and pol... speech of welcome, leaving ... his official Rolls-Royce befo... the first course of crab ... and thousand year egg w... jellyfish.

When I expressed surpri... that the Chinese had agreed ... help make money for Holid... Inns, Adley retorted that th... was a typically uninformed ... British remark. The Chines... unlike the Russians, were n... out to conquer the world to... morrow; their embassy he... existed to come to terms wi... our way of life, not to impos... theirs on us. Adley thought tha... the Chinese were particularl... friendly towards Conservatives, ... because they most truly repre... sented what life in Britain wa... all about.

Bigges, the super British ... ace and hero of 96 books writ... ten by Captain W. E. Johns, ... may shortly fly again. The film ... rights have been sold to the ... film producer, Peter James. ... Bigles, who first took flight ... with his pals, Algie, Ginger and ... Bertie in 1915, was still flying ... for Scotland Yard after World ... War II. His adventures have ... never been filmed...

PHS

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
inting House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

ND'S INTRANSIGENCE

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sters might have suggested. In particular the need for conservation which should override all others was sensibly framed by allowing the Icelanders to determine their own figure for a total catch in which Britain would accept a twenty-eight per cent share, a figure that might be open to bargaining given some realism on the other side.

Where a much more cautious British attitude is imposed is in sending the Navy back if its trawlers are molested, however convinced Britain is that the 200-mile limit has no force in law and that Icelandic interference with our trawlers must be resisted. All the evidence is that any such automatic gesture is deeply resented in Reykjavik and stiffens the government there into even greater immobility. There may well be grounds for naval protection backing the trawlers but it should be a limited and discreet gesture, certainly not one that seems to be launching yet another cod war in circumstances where Britain now seems more certainly than in the past to be a loser.

However badly the Icelanders behave, or however impeccable the case that Britain can state in law, the tide is bringing most gains to Iceland. The 200-mile limit is now admitted in advance of its international adoption. The argument for conservation is not disputed—though Britain might have done better to accept it more generously when the negotiations began last September. The arguments for economic loss and increased unemployment may stare Fleetwood, Hull and Grimsby in the face but seen from Iceland they are not so compelling as Iceland's economic balance sheet. So, too, are the arguments of political power: Mr Hallgrimsson has more to lose by his concessions than Mr Wilson has with any he chooses to make.

All this rests in the larger context of the European Community and the very important changes that will follow the expected formal adoption of a 200-mile limit. The waters around Britain will gain in importance more than those round Iceland. When the limits to fishing within these waters come to be discussed Iceland will become a petitioner while Britain will have to negotiate with her European partners. On Iceland's side the reduction of the American market and the increase in the Russian for her fish must also be balanced with the need of conservation. Iceland's continued membership of Nato is another factor in Mr Hallgrimsson's calculations. Much better a present settlement between Britain and Iceland even if it is ill-balanced in the concessions made, than allowing another fruitless cod war to develop.

NG THE RULES FOR CHRYSLER

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of Chrysler in this
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management's mind about the legality of these extra payments, then it cannot have been correct to invite rigid *and damaging* confrontation of the sort we have just seen. Chrysler UK, which will under the current rescue package be making many such moves of employment, production and other activities between their various British centres, must wish to avoid an endless upward ratcheting of wage rates, wherever wage rates are directly compared. It cannot be right, however, to seek to cover such a position with an uncertain appeal to current *national wages policy*.

So far as the shop stewards are concerned, there can be little doubt that they have successfully used crude industrial muscle to get a group of 57 workers, who are being asked to do virtually the same jobs, though on a new site, more than a rise of £6 a week in one year. Had their previous factory not been closed, there would have been no shadow of a claim. As it is, they have certainly succeeded in breaking the spirit of existing pay restraint.

Finally, the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service, in supporting the view that the settlement is within the present pay policy, seems to be endorsing a curious and wideranging new principle. The message appears to be that, where the strict operation of the *£6 a week pay increase* limit creates clear anomalies, the limit may be breached. Since the effectiveness of the policy in this past year has largely rested on the fact that, though many did not like it, they accepted it as a rough and ready weapon in the fight against inflation, this episode will reinforce the view of those who think that there are different rules for those who are organized effectively.

IE TIMES' FAIR TO THE ARAB LOBBY?

lay a letter from the
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fused. Nothing in any of the pro-Arab argumentation has met the point that Zionism is a national and religious rather than a racist *movement. Nothing has met the* argument that if the United Nations want to be the brokers of peace in the Middle East, they should not set about it by insulting one of the parties.

The general news coverage of Middle Eastern affairs inevitably means that more space tends to be given to the Arab countries than to Israel, if only because there are a large number of Arab countries, each with its own government and its own policy, whose affairs have to be reported. In general, we try to keep a balance in controversial articles and have particularly given opportunities to Mr Dennis Walters, who is one of the chairmen of the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding, and to Mr Ian Gilmour, who have reported and commented on their visits to Arab countries and their interviews with Arab leaders. We felt they have something to say. We also have in Mr Andrew Faulds a regular Labour commentator who is known to be very sympathetic to the Arab cause, and he is balanced by another regular Labour commentator, Mr Eric Moonman, who is a Zionist.

There are two types of impartiality: one is the impartiality of the grave and demure newspaper which never makes up its mind about anything; never gives offence to anybody and regards ten inches of bad argument as being the proper equivalent to ten inches of good. The other type of *impartiality, which we try* to follow, makes judgments, and is not afraid to discriminate between strong arguments and weak ones. In the case of the *Middle East The Times* is not afraid to criticize or condemn the actions of the Arab countries or the actions of Israel. Nor are we afraid to support the Arabs or Israel when we think they are right, however much offence that gives. It is this impartiality which *should be defended against* Councils for the Advancement of This and That. Of course the arguments of both sides need to be given space, and are given sometimes only too much space, but there is a limit to the number of restatements of sophistical *arguments which we have a duty* to print, or our readers have a duty to read.

g the homeless

D. C. Hoath

a Geddes's useful article
ers (January 28) contained
owing passage: "Local
s have a duty (though not
ory obligation, as some
to provide at least tempo-
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ay with the approval of the
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ements for providing . . . tem-
accommodation for persons
re in urgent need *thereof*,
need arising in circumstances
could not reasonably have
foreseen or in such other cir-
ances as the authority may in
articular case determine" (my
); and in the exercise of this
conferred on him by s 21,
Secretary of State *directed*
authorities on February 11,
to provide accommodation for
"persons" covered by s 21.
there is a *duty* to provide temporary accommodation for "persons" (which must include not just families but also single people) in urgent need arising in unforeseeable circumstances (though opinions differ as to what may amount to unforeseeable circumstances). Further, this is a *statutory* duty.

Confusion has arisen because of a 1974 circular urging that housing authorities should concentrate scarce resources on helping homeless families; but circulars neither make nor change the law, so this circular cannot affect the above statutory duty which still rests on social services authorities (see the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970), and which can be enforced in appropriate cases by court action —a consideration of vital importance to those negotiating with recalcitrant local authorities.

In the case envisaged by Ms Geddes, of a local authority evicting squatters, this statutory duty would not usually apply as the eviction would be foreseeable. But it would be wrong to imagine that there is never any statutory duty to house the homeless.

It appears that the Government will shortly be legislating to place a statutory duty on housing (as opposed to social services) authorities, as envisaged by the 1974 circular. One hopes that in a matter of such fundamental importance the draftsman can provide for a statutory duty which is neither as difficult to find nor as ambiguous as the one we have at present.

Yours faithfully,
D. C. HOATH,
University of Sheffield,
Faculty of Law, Sheffield.
January 30.

Detained in Singapore

From Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham, West, and others

Sir, On February 2, 1963, the Singapore Government, in cooperation with the British authorities who were then responsible for internal security, put into effect "Operation Coldstore" under which 107 citizens of Singapore and Malaya were detained for opposing the projected—and shortlived—federation of Malaysia. Now, 13 years later, three of these men—Dr Lim Hock Siew, a leader of the opposition Barisan Sosialis party, Said Zahari, poet and editor, and Ho Piow, a trade unionist, together with Lee Tee Tong, an elected legislative assemblyman, who was arrested a few months later—are still detained without trial.

Over the years there have been widespread demands for their release. As recently as May 13 1975, after his return from the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference, Harold Wilson agreed in the House of Commons that Lee Kuan Yew would add to his prestige if he were to release them. We appeal to the Prime Minister of Singapore, in the name of that humanity and civilized behaviour which should exist among members of the Commonwealth, now to take this opportunity of releasing them from their 13 years of detention without trial.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER PRICE,
IVOR CLEMITSON
ROBIN F. COOK,
House of Commons,
January 28.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Direct voting in European election

From Lord Duncan-Sandys

Sir, As outlined by your Political Editor (February 4), the proposals of the Royle Committee, set up by the Conservative Party to consider the question of direct elections to the European Parliament, seem to be on the right lines.

It is essential that Britain should introduce direct elections based on universal suffrage in 1978 as the other member states of the Community. It would create the worst possible impression if we were to lag behind.

Whatever may be the case for proportional representation, the legislative and organizational problems involved rule out its adoption between now and 1978. For the same reason, it is quite impractical to consider anything other than the grouping of existing constituencies without any change in boundaries.

Your report forecasts that the Scots will be dissatisfied with a representation no greater than that of Luxembourg, which has a population of only one sixth of that of Scotland. But that is not a case for giving Scotland a disproportionately large share of the representation of the United Kingdom. It is surely rather an argument for reducing the quite absurdly large allocation of seats to Luxembourg.

There is, however, a major issue to which no reference has been made. *The Royle Committee is right* in recognizing the physical impossibility of imposing upon anyone the duty of serving both in the European Parliament and in the House of Commons. But that does not mean to say that there should be no contact between them. So long as the effective power of decision in the Community continues to rest in the Council of Ministers, who, in turn, derive their authority from their national parliaments, it is of cardinal importance that the members of the European Parliament should have the opportunity to express their views to MPs at Westminster and, most important of all, should have the right to bring pressure to bear upon ministers by means of question and answer and public debate. This requirement might best be met by meetings in some suitable place (not the Chamber of the House of Commons), which would be attended by members of the European Parliament, the ministers concerned with the issues involved and members of the House of Commons interested in European affairs.

It is essential that any new scheme should in some appropriate manner provide for direct and regular contact between our representatives in the European Parliament and our MPs and ministers at Westminster. I trust, therefore, that the Government and the political parties which are, at present, studying this problem will give most serious consideration to this matter.

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN-SANDYS,
86 Vincent Square, SW1.
February 4.

Deceased alms for fuel

From Sir David Llewellyn

Sir, At a time when the old are dying of cold, the young are starved of work and the landscape is scarred with unfelled trees, dying of Dutch elm disease, could not the young be trained to cut the trees when they are felled to provide fuel for the old?

There seems to me a case this year for summer camps, run on the principles of the former Duke of York's camp at Southwold which I was once privileged to attend.

They were an example of what can be done by the inspiration of one good man, and the cooperation of employers and trade unionists and of both sectors of education.

A palliative while other plans are made? Perhaps. But a palliative which gives the young work, the old comfort, and makes Britain more beautiful may, in addition to immediate social benefit, help towards social reconciliation which our country needs.

Yours, etc.
DAVID LLEWELLYN,
The Old Rectory,
Yattendon,
Nr Newbury, Berkshire.
February 3.

Management drain

From Mr Christopher Power

Sir, The Royal Commission "pours a bucket of cold water" on the suggestion that emigration of managers, scientists and engineers represents a significant loss of industrial talent (though it is hard to see how it can be sure about this when, as it frankly admits, its emigration statistics do not cover the last two years—just the period when the commission finds that the decline in the real earnings of top management was greatest).

May be the present leaders of industry are not leaving the country in great numbers, but they are certainly finding very real difficulty in developing the right calibre of young managers to succeed them in due course. It is here that the true danger lies and the prospects of punitive taxation will drive increasing numbers of our future managers abroad before their roots go too deep in the United Kingdom. More still will opt for the less demanding backwater where their talents contribute little to the real needs of the country.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER POWER, Managing Director,
Spencer Stuart & Associates Ltd,
Brook House,
Park Lane, W1.
January 30.

A silent Concorde

From Mr Cyril Myerscough

Sir, A commercial screened on ITV shows Concorde flying apparently as silently as a paper dart. If it is making any sound at all, its decibel discharge is well below the level of the commentator's dulcet-toned sales chat. Can it be that the protestors are making a fuss about nothing? Or has the Concorde lobby now managed to nobble the Independent Broadcasting Authority?

Yours faithfully,
CYRIL MYERSCOUGH,
18 Montpelier Row, Twickenham, Middlesex.

Pornography and the law

From Dr Brian A. Richards

Sir, I am conscious of the honour of being featured in a *Times Leader* (January 30). (The first family doctor to be so treated, I am told, within living memory.) There is however something I regard as far more important even than the honour.

On reading the Leader carefully it becomes alarmingly clear that one of two unpleasant conditions must have influenced the writer. The first was that he (or indeed, she), was writing under the direction of a superior. This human frailty could be understood, though in *The Times*, certainly not pardoned. I dismissed that alternative.

Consequently, after regarding in depth particularly the shrill and near hysterical babbling of column three, it is apparent that the writer is already the victim of a sad personal sexual disturbance. The inherent need there displayed, to make unsolicited and voluble protestations of so frantic a nature is well recognized to be symptomatic of a problem that merits not only suspicion but sympathy and an offer of help.

The writer need not at this stage feel undue anxiety. Everyone has a sexual problem at least once in a lifetime. For many it is long and painful. Aid can nonetheless be found. It would be unethical for me to offer my own services, but if the writer would care to approach me, I will, in complete confidence, refer him to a colleague for assistance.

So to broader issues. One of the things which is most difficult to explain to the lay person is that erotographic material while being loathsome and repulsive to some . . . as for example were the very things you quoted in your Leader to *myself . . . this loathsome quality in* no way removes the value to others. Indeed it can be shown that the *more extreme the material the* greater, in certain cases, can be its value.

There are only three ways of dealing with severe sexual deviations. First, the deviation can actually be carried out. This may involve criminal acts and perhaps the involvement of unwilling persons. Second, it can be savagely suppressed. This in turn can and does lead to neurotic or psychotic patterns bringing immense misery upon the patient, the patient's family, the working environment and so on. Third, the deviation can be relieved by such processes as masturbation during which fantasy situations are enacted in the safety of the person's mind. It is on these grounds (and also on some more professional ones), that I have chosen to defend the availability of such material.

For you to make selected quotations from my defence and to print them totally without their essential explanatory context was, I submit, a grossly unfair and misleading act quite unworthy of a *Times* Leader.

Colleagues from Scandinavian countries with whom I have discussed the current spate of expensive trials under the Obscene [illegible] with an air of patient magnanimity. As they explain, it is just what they themselves went through fifteen years ago. They assure me that it will all be alright in the end and that one day we will all look back and laugh at our present antics.

Does your Leader writer, I wonder, suggest for a moment that the responsible governments who removed censorship in Scandinavia ten years ago were wantonly enacting laws that would lead to the corruption of *their own* people? Furthermore, now that ten years of evidence has been accrued is it suggested that they are still allowing such corruption to continue now that they know better? Of course not. The idea is ludicrous. The evidence has spoken for itself.

What is wrong in the United Kingdom is that the law as it stands permits a vast profit to be made from the exploitation of persons who would benefit from or merely enjoy sexually explicit material. (From Scotland Yard I learned last week that Swedish magazines costing 50p in Stockholm cost £5 in London!) There is of course no way to stop sexual material falling into the hands of the young. This is likewise true of cigarettes and alcohol. Although these latter are of conclusively proven danger, it is regarded as sufficient of a protection to curtail their legal sales to persons above a certain age. Why this should not also be so for erotic magazines (which are of no proven danger and much proven value), has not been adequately explained to me.

Most people have sexual deviations. These are usually not understood. *Because they are not* understood they are feared. Because they are feared they are condemned. There is *no logic in this condemnation*. Neither is there any logic in the present bad and unenforceable law. With *suitable* restrictions to protect the disinterested public and minors it should be changed with the minimum of delay.

Finally, might I be permitted one small personal comment? I gather that during the Linda Lovelace hearing at the Old Bailey *The Times* had a prominent if ageing representative taking copious notes. Assuming that the boring proceedings did not lull him to sleep at the crucial moment, he would have heard me say that I was a general practitioner. He would further have heard that my particular field of study and interest within that occupation is in sexual problems at GP level. I have practised this for over a decade.

Although I have never claimed to be a "specialist" whatever that is, I do have a vast experience of the field and have been taught thereby. This is, by definition, expertise. I have written widely in the medical press. I have been invited and have lectured in the post-graduate centres of London teaching hospitals. The implication that I am not expert is so created in your leader that were I a resentful man, I would resent it. But then, I am not a resentful man.

If at any time you feel the need to publish the alternative view supporting the case for a change in the Obscene Publications Act and explaining anything other than your own lay view I will be pleased to help.

Yours sincerely,
B. RICHARDS,
Gusta Lodge,
Worth, Deal,
Kent.
February 3.

From the Headmaster of Clifton College

Sir, *There* seem to be two contrary propositions, either of which may be true, though not both:

1. Pornography does not deprave and education does not civilize.

2. Education *does* civilize and pornography *does* deprave.

It is, of course, possible that the first of these propositions may be true. But I imagine that most educators will put their money on the second.

Yours faithfully,
STUART ANDREWS,
Clifton College, Bristol.
February 3.

From Mrs Alan Kippax

Sir, May I, as a practising Christian, take up one or two points from William Sargant's article (February raphy to grow unchecked".

First, to set the record straight, there are no "good" Christians, as anyone who is a Christian would affirm. It is precisely because we have faced up to the fact that we are not "good" that we are Christians—this is what the Christian faith is all about.

One of the great dangers of the permissive society is the hedonistic attitude which puts sexual self-indulgence before all else. The Christian emphasis is on self-discipline and self-control, which leads to *true contentment*, which is a very different state of temporary pleasure. Consideration for others *should govern our every act*, and then, hopefully, we can live our lives with the minimum of regrets.

"*That one can please oneself* what one does as long as no one else is hurt" is today's most subtle and fallacious argument, acting as an umbrella for undiluted selfishness. No one can do *anything at all* without affecting, and often hurting someone else.

For those who consider that what God has to say on these matters is relevant, the 28th chapter of the book of Deuteronomy is unambiguous.

Yours faithfully,
JANET KIPPAX,
Little Roundwood,
240 Sidegate Lane, Ipswich.
February 3.

An abandoned claim

From the Secretary-General of the Law Society

Sir, The letter from Mrs Lesley Loach (February 3) indicates a distressing state of affairs. Mrs Loach is not, however, entirely accurate when she says that she wrote to The Law Society a month previously and had no reply. In fact she wrote to the society on January 4 last, her letter being received on January 6. Her letter to you is dated January 17; her letter to The Law Society was answered on January 20, and Mrs Loach's reply is awaited.

Mrs Loach's letter to The Law Society made it clear that her case presented grave difficulties; she said that her solicitors had always been extremely kind and helpful; very understandably, however, she was so upset that in all the circumstances she had decided to abandon her claim and was then faced with a substantial bill for legal costs—although she evidently did not seek to dispute the fairness of the bill. In replying to her letter The Law Society sought her permission to communicate with her solicitors, with a view to obtaining details of the difficulties encountered. Whether or not The Law Society could have offered practical help to Mrs Loach one cannot say, but it is not fair to accuse it of not caring.

Yours faithfully,
J. L. BOWRON,
Secretary-General,
The Law Society,
The Law Society's Hall,
113 Chancery Lane, WC2.
February 4.

The arts outside London

From Mr Louis Carus

Sir, Your report of January 30, on *the proposed devolution of financial* and administrative resources by the Arts Council, is both timely and welcome to thousands of patrons of the arts in our sadly undernourished regions. The aesthetic and intellectual superiority of centralized patronage has for too long been a painful penance for professional artists, and for promoters or supporters of the arts, in the provinces.

This is particularly true of the Midlands which are assumed to be within easy commuting distance—a mere *£10 return rail surcharge for* a trip to the Festival Hall or Covent Garden—of the cultural wonders of the Capital City. Just one example of the poverty of regional resources, and of lack of local encouragement, is the fact that no single purpose-built concert hall or opera house has been built in the West Midland region (population five million) since 1945. *Meanwhile London basks* in the glories of the South Bank, two vast opera houses and companies, *priceless picture collections* and a host of other exotic amenities denied to her country cousins.

There is a desperate need in Birmingham alone for such facilities. Any move, through local government resources or the West Midlands Arts Association, to alleviate the present *situation will be a step forward in* the emancipation of regional culture. London has had a good run (say 400 years) of being dog in the metropolitan manger; now let us see what some of the provincial pups can do.

Yours faithfully,
LOUIS CARUS, Head,
Birmingham School of Music,
City of Birmingham Polytechnic,
Paradise Circus,
Birmingham.
January 31.

Proposed nuclear deal with Japan

From the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency

Sir, In *The Times* of February 2 you published an article by your Science Editor entitled "Proposed nuclear deal would break treaty" in which it was said that I had suggested that the agreement under negotiation for Britain to supply nuclear fuel and to carry out reprocessing work for Japan would be a breach of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

I have never made any suggestion of this kind. The article in IAEA's bulletin to which your Science Editor referred contained the text of a talk that I gave in Stockholm last October in which I pressed as I have frequently done in the past for the universal application of safeguards to prevent diversion from civil nuclear operations to nuclear explosives and other military uses and for the adoption of more effective supply policies to that end. My talk was of course quite unrelated to the negotiations between Britain and Japan and made no reference whatsoever to those negotiations.

The situation in Japan is as follows. All supplies of nuclear material and facilities to Japan are covered by safeguards agreements with IAEA. In practice therefore all present significant nuclear activities in Japan are under agency safeguards.

The supply by Britain of nuclear fuel and reprocessing services would be covered by the agreement of October 15, 1968, between Britain, Japan and IAEA. Thus Britain is free to make such supplies and to render such services without any infraction of its obligations under article three paragraph two of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. That article provides that "each state party to the treaty undertakes not to provide: (a) source or special fissionable material or (b) equipment or material especially *designed or prepared for the* processing, use or production of special fissionable material, to any non-*nuclear weapon state for peaceful* purposes, unless the source or special fissionable material shall be *subject to the safeguards required* by this article".

Yours faithfully,
SIGVARD EKLUND,
Director General,
International Atomic Energy Agency,
Karntnerring, 11-13, Vienna.

NHS and private practice

From Dr A. D. M. Bryceson and Mrs Florence Gentleman

Sir, The staff of this NHS hospital are united in our views on private practice in this hospital.

This hospital, which is unique in Great Britain, serves a national role in caring for patients from all over the world who come to Britain with tropical diseases. About one fifth of the patients admitted are overseas residents and, unless they present as medical emergencies, are admitted privately. The hospital has important functions in training postgraduate nurses, postgraduate students attending courses at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and in carrying out research. The contribution of private patients to our role is a real one.

We would, therefore, strongly oppose any action to remove or reduce private beds at the hospital or to interfere with private practice within it. We take this view without regard to our personal attitudes towards the independence of the medical profession, the freedom of patients to choose and the relationship of the NHS to private practice in general.

We also believe that the unanimity which we express may also exist in other hospitals and that attempts to achieve and express broad agreement on such matters of principle and policy among all members of staff of a *hospital could go a long way to* reduce misunderstanding and strife within that hospital and to prevent disruption of medical services.

Besides ourselves, this letter has been signed by 49 other members of the hospital staff.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY BRYCESON,
F. GENTLEMAN,
Hospital for Tropical Diseases,
4 St Pancras Way, NW1.

Sex discrimination

From Mrs Susan M. Serafy

Sir, As an Englishwoman married to a foreigner I have special interest in the new Sex Discrimination Act, said to have proclaimed equality between the sexes. For recently my two "alien" children were removed from my British passport where they had been entered to facilitate their movements in and out of my country.

I really would like to know why the children of a British male should automatically gain British citizenship wherever the nationality of the "other parent" and irrespective of their place of birth, whereas the children of a British female are denied this fundamental right.

Could you and your readers help *explain this discrimination between* the sexes which, I must add, United States females do not suffer?

Yours faithfully,
SUSAN M. SERAFY,
3118 N 17th Street,
Arlington,
Virginia, 22201 USA.

Unsolicited mail

From Mr J. D. Spinney

Sir, May I suggest how Adam Fergusson may best shake off the attentions of the mail order computer? Let him write to inform the Beast that he has changed his address, and will it please note for further correspondence; after which he inserts either the address from which the unwelcome communications come or, if I can discover it, that of the company chairman. He should have no further trouble.

Yours guilefully,
J. D. SPINNEY,
The Old Cottage,
Iwerne Minster,
Blandford, Dorset.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 4: The Lord Oram had the honour of being received by The Queen this morning upon his appointment as a Lord in Waiting to Her Majesty.

Mr C. W. Wallace was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Asuncion.

Mrs Wallace had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Air Marshal Sir Nigel Maynard had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon relinquishing his appointment as Commander-in-Chief, Royal Air Force Germany.

His Excellency Mr Niels Parsberg Sigurdsson and Mrs Sigurdsson were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Iceland to the Court of St James's.

Mr James Hamilton, MP (Vice-Chamberlain of the Household) was received in audience by The Queen and presented an Address from the House of Commons to which Her Majesty was graciously pleased to make reply.

The Queen was represented by Major Sir Rennie Maudslay (Keeper of the Privy Purse) at the Memorial Service for Sir Thomas Monnington (President of the Royal Academy) which was held in St James's Church, Piccadilly, today.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by the Lord Nathan.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 4: Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief the Royal Corps of Transport, received Major General V. H. J. Carpenter on assuming the appointment as Representative Colonel Commandant for 1976 and also Brigadier R. A. J. Eggar on relinquishing the appointment as Colonel Commandant of the Regiment.

The Duchess of Gloucester today visited the Croydon, Sutton and District Spastics Society.

Miss Jennifer Thomson was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester will attend the international women's hockey match, England versus Scotland, at Wembley Stadium on March 13.

Today's engagements

The Lord Mayor presides at Court of Common Council, Guildhall, 1.

Exhibition of Impressionist works from the Courtauld Collection, Board Room, National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, 10-6.

Gallery talk: The harpsichord, by Carole Patey, Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, 2.30.

Lecture: What is a Romantic? by Professor Stephen Spender, Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, 7.30.

Memorial service: Mr Geoffrey MacBride, Chapel of St Michael and St George, St Paul's Cathedral, 2.30.

Lieutenant-General Sir Clarence Bird, 91; Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser of North Cape, 88; Lord Gibson, 60; Professor Sir Alan Hodgkin, 62; Sir Antony Hornby, 72; Wing Commander R. A. B. Learoyd, VC, 63; Mr John Pritchard, 55; the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, 72; Dr Dirk Stikker, 79; Sir Bruce White, 91.

Dinners

Marchioness of Bristol
The Marquess and Marchioness of Bristol held a dinner party last night at 3 Belgrave Place in honour of Commander Miles Jackson-Lipkin, QC, and Mrs Miles Jackson-Lipkin, from Hongkong. Among those present were:
The Duke and Duchess of St Albans, Mr David and Lady Pamela Hicks, and Mr John Brooke-Little, Richmond Herald, and Mrs Brooke-Little.

Fletchers' Company
The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies attended the ladies dinner of the Fletchers' Company held at the Mansion House last night. The master, Mr F. G. Peacock, presided, and the other speakers were the Upper Warden, Mr G. W. Burrow, the Lord Mayor, and Lieutenant-Colonel H. Boehm, Royal Toxophilite Society.

Association of County Chief Executives
Mr L. Keith Robinson, chairman of the Association of County Chief Executives, presided at the association's annual dinner held at the Law Society's hall last night. The principal guest was Sir Ian Bancroft, Permanent Secretary, Department of the Environment. Among those present were:
Lord Porchester, Baroness Young, Colonel Sir John Ruggles-Brise, Sir Alan Dawtry, Sir Robert Marshall, Sir William Pile, Sir Idwal Pugh, Mr H. W. Evans, and Mr J. Lane.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr D. B. Cowan and Miss C. J. Carlisle
The engagement is announced of Dickinson Bergius, only son of Mr and Mrs Bailey Cowan, of Hazelhurst, Haslemere, Surrey, and Christianne Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. G. Carlisle, Kloof, Natal, South Africa.

M D. H. Da Rin and Miss F. M. Tooley
The engagement is announced between Didier Henri, eldest son of the late M Roger Da Rin and of Mme Da Rin, of Flexanville, 78910 France, and Fiona Mary, daughter of Mr John Tooley, of 12 Earl's Court Gardens, London, SW5, and of Mrs Brian Ball-Greene, of Pound Farm, Cadmore End, Buckinghamshire.

Mr S. C. Massey and Miss R. V. Portillo
The engagement is announced between Stephen, younger son of Mr Dudley Massey, of Richmond, Surrey, and the late Mrs Sheila Massey, and Raynee, twin daughter of Colonel and Mrs Raymond Portillo, of Dallas, Texas.

The Rev R. D. Newman and Miss C. Kingsley
The engagement is announced between David, elder son of the late Canon E. A. Newman and of Mrs J. Newman, of Hythe, Kent, and Christine, daughter of Mr and Mrs L. S. C. Kingsley, of Ashwell, Hertfordshire.

Luncheons

Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain
Mr Ivor S. Richard, QC, UK Permanent Representative to the United Nations, was the guest of honour at a luncheon held yesterday at the Waldorf Hotel by the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain. Mr John Dickie, president of the association, was in the chair.

House of Brazil
The Brazilian Ambassador presided at a luncheon given yesterday at the House of Brazil in honour of Viscount Cobham, President of the Kipling Society. Among the guests were:
Sir Leslie Fry, Sir Geoffrey Wallinger and Sir David Hunt, former British ambassadors to Brazil; Rear-Admiral Patrick Brock, Rear-Admiral T. B. Reifschneider, Sir David Scott Fox, Miss Christina Foyle, Professor R. A. Humphreys, Professor Peter Russell, Professor John Lynch, Mr J. D. B. Fowells and members of the Kipling Society and of the Brazilian Embassy. After luncheon Professor C. E. Carrington addressed those present on Kipling's Brazilian Sketches.

City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce
The City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce and the Westminster Junior Chamber of Commerce held a joint luncheon yesterday at the Hilton hotel. Mr Robert Stevens was in the chair, and the guest of honour was Mr Robin Knox-Johnston. The chambers intend to sponsor one place each at a Sail Training Association course and an Outward Bound school for a Westminster boy or girl in 1976.

Memorial services

Sir Thomas Monnington
The Queen was represented by Major Sir Rennie Maudslay, and the Duke of Edinburgh by Lord Nathan, at a memorial service for Sir Thomas Monnington, PRA, held yesterday at St James's, Piccadilly. The Rev William Baddeley officiated. Mr Peter Greenham, RA, read the lesson, and Mr E. J. B. Rose gave an address. The Lord Mayor of Westminster attended and the Leader of the Liberal Party was represented by Mrs Ursula Thorpe. Among others present were:
Lady Monnington (widow), Mr and Mrs John Monnington (son and daughter-in-law), Mr James Monnington (son), Mr and Mrs Meredith Monnington (brother and sister-in-law), Mrs Robert Hunt (sister-in-law), Miss Annabel Hunt, Dr and Mrs David Hunt, Miss D. Monnington, Major and Mrs J. G. Lofroy, Mr and Mrs Kenyon Emrys-Roberts, Mr B. J. Emrys-Roberts, Lady (Dingle) Foot.

The Spanish Chargé d'Affaires, the Duke of Grafton, the Duke of St Albans, Lord Evans of Hungershall (representing Royal Society of Literature), Lord Gibson (chairman, Arts Council) and Lady Gibson, Lord Trevelyan, Baroness Lee of Asheridge, Lord O'Brien of Lothbury, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of London, Air Commodore the Hon Peter Vanneck (Rowe and Pitman, Hurst-Brown), Sir John Rodgers, MP, Sir Denis Hamilton, Sir Robin Mackworth-Young, Sir Antony Hornby, Sir John Pope-Hennessy, Sir Norman Reid (Director, Tate Gallery, representing the trustees), Lady Balsford, Sir John Summerson (representing the trustees, Sir John Soane's Museum), Lady Brittain, Sir Geoffrey Agnew, Sir Hugh and Lady Casson.

Sir Basil Spence, RA, and Lady Spence, Lady (Gerald) Kelly, Lady (Robin) Darwin, Sir Gordon Russell, Sir Philip Powell, Sir Edmund Sargant (Professional Classes Aid Council), Lady (William) Coldstream, Mr Sidney Hutchison (secretary, Royal Academy of Arts) and Mrs Hutchison with Mr K. J. Tanner (registrar), and Miss Constance Anne Parker (librarian), Mr David McFall, RA, Mr H. T. Cadbury-Brown, RA, Mr Leonard Rosoman, RA, Mr Rodney Burn, R.A., and Mrs Burn, Mr Richard Eurich, RA, Mr John Ward, RA, Miss Gertrude Hermes, RA, Mr Kyffin Williams, RA, Mr Frederick Gore, RA, Mr Robert Buhler, RA, Mr Norman Blamey, RA, Mr Andrew Freeth, RA, Mr James Fitton, RA, and Mrs Fitton, Mr Bernard Dunstan, RA, Mr Edward Wolfe, RA, Mr Allan Gwynne-Jones, RA, and Mrs Gwynne-Jones, Mr John Aldridge, RA, and Mrs Aldridge, Professor Carel Weight, RA, Mr Edward Bawden, RA, Mr Bryan Kneale, RA.

Miss Elizabeth Frink, Mr Anthony Green, Mr Donald Hamilton Fraser, Mr Geoffrey Clarke, Miss Betty Swanwick, Mr David Tindle, Mr Erno Goldfinger, Miss Sandra Blow, Mr Roger de Grey (City and Guilds of London Art School), Mr Edward Halliday (President, Royal Society of Portrait Painters) and Mrs Halliday, Miss Charlotte Halliday, Mr James Bruxner, Mrs Philip James, Mrs Thorneig, Gibson, Mr Edward Croft-[illegible] Wood, Mr and Mrs James Royds, Mr Robin Campbell, Mr Graham Reynolds, Mr James Byam Shaw, Mr Francis Ward, Miss Audrey Russell, Mr Norman Janes.

Mr and Mrs Humphrey Brooke, Mrs Terence Mullaly, the Master of the Painter Stainers' Company, Mrs John Valzoy, Mr John Merton, Professor R. G. Hopkinson (representing London University), Mr A. G. Sheppard Fidler (chairman, British School at Rome) with Mr C. A. H. James, Mrs Alfred Hardiman, Mrs F. McGregor-Eadie (Royal Society of British Sculptors), Mrs Patricia Fay (National Association of Decorative and Fine Art Societies), Mrs V. Surtees, Mr J. G. Pollard (Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge), Mr C. M. Kaufmann (Victoria and Albert Museum), Mr G. Lindow (Athenaeum), Mr David Piper (Ashmolean Museum).

Senor G. Alonso (Spanish Institute), Mr A. Tattersall (University College London), Mr Conrad Casterson (Reynolds Club), Mr Michael Vorey (J. Henry Schroder Wagg), Mrs S. Gainsborough (Arts Review), Mr Al Weil (Turner Society), Mr J. E. Drage (Royal Bank of Scotland), Mr Brinsley Ford (National Art-Collections Fund), Mr James H. Shaw (manager, Drummond's branch, Royal Bank of Scotland) with Mr P. E. Gale, Mr Neville Williams (representing the President of the British Academy), Mr Gerald Forty (British Council), Mr Michael Shepherd (International Association of Art Critics also representing "The Sunday Telegraph" arts review), Miss D. Laidman (Artists' General Benevolent Institution).

Mr C. M. Barlow (Belmont School), Mr Cavendish Morton (Gainsborough's House Society), Mr R. E. Enthoven (Art Workers Guild), Mrs D. Donohue (Society of Women Artists), Mr George Sweet (Royal West of England Academy), Mr Brian Thomas (Glaziers' Company), Mr John Hopkins (Society of Antiquaries), Mr John Denison (Festival Hall), Mr B. A. R. Carter (Slade School), Colonel I. N. Davies (chairman, Artists' Rifle Association) with Captain H. V. Gliom, Mr John Gilmartin (Birmingham City Museums and Art Gallery), Mr Graham Rowe (representing the chairman, Arts Club) and Mr T. Hodgkinson (Wallace Collection).

Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Brannon
Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Lord Lieutenant of the Isle of Wight, was represented by Sir John Nicholson, who gave an address, at a memorial service for Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Wilfrid Brannon held yesterday at St Thomas's, Newport. The Rev J. F. Buckett officiated, and the Rev G. C. Rayner read the lesson. Among others present were:
Mrs Brannon (widow), Mr Richard Bradbeer (managing director, Isle of Wight County Press) and Mrs Bradbeer (son-in-law and daughter); the Mayor of Medina, Admiral Sir Manley Power, Rear-Admiral J. L. Blackham (chairman, Isle of Wight County Council), Major Charles Selwyn, Captain Stewart MacKenzie (representing Territorial Army), Mr S. A. Roa (Isle of Wight County Press), Mr Geoffrey Cotterell ("Southern Evening Echo") and Mr Arthur Garrett ("The News", Portsmouth).

Dr G. Mitchell-Heggs
A memorial service for Dr Gordon Mitchell-Heggs was held yesterday at the Church of St Andrew-by-the-Wardrobe, City of London. The Rev F. P. Coleman, the Rev Robert Arnold, who gave an address, and Mr Stafford Bourne, who read the lesson, took part in the service. Among others present were:
Mrs Mitchell-Heggs (widow), Mr Raymond Mitchell-Heggs (son), Mr M. Mitchell-Heggs (brother), Mrs B. Church (sister), Dr Peter Mitchell-Heggs, Mr and Mrs Anthony Mitchell-Heggs, Mr Christopher Mitchell-Heggs.

Lord and Lady Porritt, Lady Brougham and Vaux, Dame Frances Clode, Lady (Thomas) Butler, Dr C. H. Edwards (Dean, St Mary's Hospital Medical School, also representing the Vice-Chancellor of London University) with Mr J. E. Stevenson; the Master of the Society of Apothecaries of London and Mrs E. Grey-Turner with the Senior Warden and Mrs D. Teare, Mr Ian Jackson, Junior Warden, Mr A. M. A. Moore, Mr Keith Lyle, Mr R. R. Thompson, Mr Willoughby Cashell, Sir John and Lady Richardson, Sir Brian Windeyer, Sir Ronald Bodley Scott, Sir Gordon and Lady Wolstenholme, Mr Guy Blackburn, Dr T. D. Whittet, Professor J. A. Dudgeon, Mr [illegible].

Mrs Stafford Bourne, Mr Edward Bourne, Mr Christopher Bourne, Dr H. J. Wallace (International Committee of Dermatologists) and Mrs Wallace, Dr R. H. Meara (Dean, Institute of Dermatology, London University), Dr David I. Williams (British Association of Dermatologists), Mr A. H. Montgomery (representing Board of Governors, St John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin) with Mrs M. Chastney (nursing officer); Mr G. Clark (Middlesex Hospital Medical School), Dr W. D. W. Brooks (consulting physician, Royal Navy), Dr T. Oppe (Royal College of Physicians), Dr F. C. Shelley (Medical Defence Union), Mr J. H. Carver (17 BGH), Mr Geoffrey Dakin (Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund Council), Miss E. M. Downer and Miss A. K. Shaw (nursing staff, St Mary's Hospital).

Mrs H. J. C. Petrs, Dr and Mrs C. D. Calnan, Dr G. B. Dowling, Dr A. W. Frankland, Dr Thomas Hunt, Dr Ray Bettley, Professor D. M. Pryce, Dr and Mrs T. A. Kemp, Mr and Mrs J. Wykes, Professor A. Neuberger, Mrs J. Brown, Dr and Mrs J. W. Litchfield, Mrs H. N. Sporborg, Dr H. Cockburn, Dr and Mrs Carmichael Young, Dr J. D. W. Pearce, Dr William A. R. Thomson, Mr G. E. Graves Peirce, Dr and Mrs R. M. B. MacKenna, Mrs Oliver Dawson, Mrs H. Copeman, Miss Brenda Clayden, and Miss Jean Whitlock.

Marriages

Mr D. P. C. Neave and Mrs M. H. N. Lawrence
The marriage took place on Wednesday, February 4, 1976, in the King Henry VII Chapel, Westminster Abbey, of Mr Digby Neave and Mrs Peggy Lawrence. The Dean of Westminster, the Very Rev Edward Carpenter, officiated, assisted by the precentor, the Rev Roger Job. The bride was given in marriage by Mr C. P. Bramble. Group Captain G. M. Buxton was best man.

A family reception was held at the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club.

Captain N. G. Steven and Miss I. H. Basler
The marriage of Captain Nicholas Geoffrey Steven, Royal Signals, and Miss Isabelle Harriet Basler has taken place in Belize, Central America. Father William Messmer, SJ, officiated.

School assessors named

Lord Alexander of Potterhill, general secretary of the Association of Education Committees, Mr John Chalk, president of the National Association of Schoolmasters, Mrs Margery Hurst, joint chairman of the Brook Street Bureau, Mr Stuart Maclure, editor of *The Times Educational Supplement*, and Mrs Marie Patterson, former chairman of the General Council of the TUC, are among the 32 members of the consultative committee of the Assessment of Performance Unit which is to monitor standards in schools, it was announced in a parliamentary written answer yesterday.



King Juan Carlos of Spain putting a model car through its paces on the eighth birthday party of his son, Prince Felipe.

£7,040 for mountainous Victorian centrepiece

By Geraldine Norman
Saleroom Correspondent

Christie's had a mountain of a Victorian centrepiece for sale yesterday, depicting the blind King of Bohemia being led into battle by his knights; it weighed 650 oz. It was sold to Koopman for £7,040 with premium (estimate £3,500 to £4,500). It is a sculptured medieval fantasy bearing the mark of Robert Garrard and the date 1854. Three horsemen clad in heavy armour carry a sword, banner and lance separately. The blind king brandishes his sword in a highly dangerous manner.

The routine sale of English and foreign silver totalled £78,558, with only 3 per cent unsold. While across the board, they were notably higher than before at the lower end of the market. That presumably reflects the rising cost of new silver, caused by labour costs and taxation.

Sotheby's were holding a sale of Japanese prints, drawings and screens. There were few important items but bidding was strong; the sale totalled £43,728, with 4 per cent unsold.

Watanabe from Japan paid £2,420 (estimate £1,000) for a seventeenth-century six-fold screen closely painted with scenes "Inside and Outside Kyoto". An Utamaro print of Yamanuba probing the ear of Kintoki with a hairpin made £1,210 (estimate £750). Prints by modern artists, such as Kiyochika, Shunsen, and Hasui, were selling particularly well.

A sale of coins at Glendining's made £57,000. A specimen set of 1902 Edward VII coronation coins made £1,000 (estimate £1,000) and the same price was paid for the Australian Adelaide pound of 1852 (estimate £800).

25 years ago

From The Times of Monday, February 5, 1951

Until the hard winter of 1946-47 the skiers of Britain were on the whole a shy and furtive lot, a sort of hidden army whose troops would reveal themselves in uniform only when they converged upon Victoria station bound for alien snowfields or oddly disported themselves before their incredulous countrymen upon the transient native snow of Box Hill and Hampstead Heath.

Today there are probably some 70,000 skiers in this country. The popularity of the sport is reflected in the growing membership of the Ski Club of Great Britain—just over 4,000 at the end of the war and nearly 12,000 before the start of the present winter season. During the war and immediately after it thousands learned to ski, and hundreds who had skied before found themselves doing so again in strange countries all over the world.

Mr Selwyn Lloyd to become a peer

Mr Selwyn Lloyd, who retired as Speaker of the House of Commons on Tuesday, is to become a life baron. The announcement was made by 10 Downing Street yesterday, and it means that automatically he ceases to be a member of the House of Commons.

In his valedictory speech from the Chair Mr Lloyd said that he would stay a few days longer in the Commons until he was appointed to the Chiltern Hundreds or the Manor of Northstead next week.

Archbishop for Canada

The Archbishop of York, the Most Rev Stuart Blanch, is to make a two-week visit to Canada next month to meet church leaders and address meetings in Montreal and Ottawa.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Mr Harold Smedley, High Commissioner to New Zealand, to be also Governor of Pitcairn.

Mr W. D. Hardie, district administrator, north Grampian district of the Grampian Health Board, Aberdeen, to be secretary to the board in May, in succession to Mr A. R. Batchalor, who retires in June.

Legal

Mr A. J. D. Wain to be Registrar of the Lincoln, Gainsborough, Grantham and Newark-on-Trent County Courts and District Registrar of the High Court at Lincoln, in succession to Mr J. F. Hipwood. Mr Registrar Jeffreys, of the Boston group of courts to be, in addition, registrar of the Lincoln group until Mr Wain is able to take up his appointment.

OBITUARY

PROFESSOR THE HON ALASTAIR BUCHAN

Founder of the International Institute for Strategic Studies

Professor the Hon Alastair Buchan, CBE, Montague Burton Professor of International Relations in the University of Oxford since 1972, died on February 3 at the age of 57.

Although in the first part of his life Alastair Buchan made a considerable reputation as a journalist, and was later to become a respected figure in the academic world, it is for the achievement of his middle years in founding and building up the International Institute for Strategic Studies that he will be chiefly remembered.

He was the youngest son of the first Lord Tweedsmuir, the novelist, John Buchan, and he resembled his father in many respects: a passion for hard work, a capacity to write fluently under any conditions (though in a handwriting which only the most devoted of secretaries could decipher) and, not least, an honourable and frank ambition for high office which was never to be wholly fulfilled. His own writings were always clear and illuminating, but since they tended to be descriptive rather than analytic and were addressed to the immediate problems of the day they never quite received the academic acclaim to which their quality entitled them. Indeed, perhaps the work by which he will be best remembered is that which he wrote while still a journalist, *The Spare Chancellor*; the life of Walter Bagehot.

His greatest talent was entrepreneurial; the bringing together of an international community of experts—practical as well as academic—in the field of international politics, whose thinking and action was to have a significant effect on the climate of international politics in the 1960s. Denis Healey, Henry Kissinger and Helmut Schmidt were only some of the influential figures who participated in the work of the IISS under Buchan's leadership.

The Hon Alastair Francis Buchan was born on September 9, 1918, and was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. At the outbreak of the Second World War, his father being at that time Governor-General of Canada, Buchan was commissioned into the Canadian Army and served with it throughout the war, seeing action at the Dieppe Raid in 1942 and North-West Europe in 1944-45.

After the war he joined the staff of *The Economist*, which he left in 1951 to become Washington Correspondent, later Diplomatic and Defence Correspondent, of *The Observer*. The four years which he spent in Washington spanned the McCarthy era and gave him a deep understanding of, and interest in, the problems of the American political process and of the newly-discovered role of the United States as a world power; together with a wide range of contacts in American political, academic and journalistic circles which were to prove a valuable asset when he became the first Director of the Institute for Strategic Studies in London in 1958.

In that capacity, working with a tiny staff in rather dinghy offices off the Strand, he quickly established the ISS as a centre whose dispassionate and accurate publications commanded respect throughout the world.

There he was able to develop his outstanding abilities. He inspired total devotion in those with whom he worked. He discerned and developed the qualities of the young scholars he attracted to the institute; and he created dialogues between groups of opposing elements—officials and outsiders, academics and journalists, military and civilians, radicals and conservatives—who had never really talked to one another before, but who, under his leadership, discovered that they had a great deal to learn from each other.

Buchan's own cool, open-minded and realistic approach to such questions as nuclear deterrence and disarmament was both infectious and reassuring. Once it was clear that the ISS had no axe to grind except that of reasoned and informed debate its prestige rapidly grew. In 1964 it became international in its control as well as its membership and extended its range beyond its original concern with the nuclear confrontation of the western and communist worlds to take account of global problems of political stability and international order. By the time Buchan resigned as director in 1969 the IISS (as it had now become) drew members from some 50 countries, many of them occupying positions of considerable authority and had established relat[ions] of confidence with many l[ead]ing figures in the comm[unity] world. He was made CB[E] 1968.

In 1970 Buchan became [Com]mandant of the Imp[erial] Defence College—a post which he was appointed by then Secretary of State [for] Defence, Mr Healey, in fac[e of] some opposition from [the] Chiefs of Staff. In the years at his disposal Bu[chan] effected a remarkable tran[sfor]mation. Renamed The R[oyal] College of Defence Studies, [the] college extended its mem[ber]ship beyond Commonwe[alth] countries to Western Eu[rope] and became, for the first [time] in many years, a serious c[entre] for the study of all the [com]plex issues—sociological as [well] as economic, technical [and] political—affecting national [de]fence on the broadest s[cale]. The change was not wh[olly] welcome to senior officers [who] had come to regard their y[ear] in Belgrave Square as a pe[riod] of well-earned sabbatical [rest] but by this time Buchan [had] developed not only a reputa[tion] but a personality which enab[led] him to face down the most [for]midable of opposition in Wh[ite]hall. In 1973 he gave the Re[ith] lectures, chosing as his the[me] "Change without War".

A year earlier he had ta[ken] up the post of Professor [of] International Relations in [the] University of Oxford. Living [as] he did near Oxford, he h[ad] many links with the universi[ty] and slipped easily enough in[to] its ways. His subject was [a] peripheral one in the univ[er]sity syllabus, and in the reig[n]ing climate of economic strin[]gency he could do little in th[e] short time that was left to hi[m] to develop it into anything mo[re] central. His reputation, how[]ever, attracted graduate stu[]dents of high quality, and th[e] reduction of the pressure und[er] which he had previousl[y] worked enabled him to devot[e] more time to his own writing—particularly the large history o[f] American foreign policy sinc[e] 1945 which he had long medi[]tated. It is not the least par[t] of the tragedy of his untimel[y] death that he never lived t[o] complete it.

He married in 1942 Hope Gordon Gilmour, of Ottawa. They had two sons and a daughter.

PROF LEONARD C. MARTIN

Professor Leonard C. Martin, King Alfred Professor of English Literature in the University of Liverpool from 1929 to 1951, died peacefully last week in a nursing home at the age of 90. He had been in failing health for some years. He was born on 21 March 1886 in Essex and was educated at Chigwell School and Keble College, Oxford. Thereafter he had various academic posts—at Toronto, Lund, Reading, the Sorbonne—before being appointed as Senior Lecturer at Liverpool in 1923. From 1926 to 1929 he was in charge of the English Literature department, and belatedly appointed to the chair. Though less dynamic than Raleigh and Elton, his immediate predecessors, his work has proved to be more enduring. His publications included the great Clarendon Press editions of Vaughan, Crashaw and Herrick; and editions of *Paradise Regained*, Cowley, and Sir Thomas Browne.

While at Liverpool, Martin started two valuable series—Liverpool Reprints and Liverpool Texts and Studies—and although he was a reluctant Dean, and had no great love for routine teaching, he was extraordinarily successful with the best pupils. Among these may be mentioned Peter Ure, Frank Kermode, Miriam Allott, and Arnold Davenport. The reputation of the Liverpool School of English was due largely to his inspiration.

He married, in 1920, Dorothy Green, of Peebles, where he retired after being a Foyle Research Fellow at the Shakespeare Institute, Stratford-on-Avon, from 1953 to 1955. His wife shared his literary and musical interests. He was a quiet, modest and friendly man, who was loved and admired by his colleagues and the more scholarly students. Even before his retirement he looked frail, but he had a good deal of toughness and resilience. His former colleagues remember him with deep affection and gratitude for the integrity which characterized all his personal and professional relationships.

EVERT TAUBE

Evert Taube, the Swedish poet, singer, author, and composer, died in Stockholm on Saturday last, aged 85.

Swedes called him a twentieth-century Bellman, after his great eighteenth-century forerunner. It has been said that nine tenths of popular songs to be heard in Sweden today came from Taube's pen.

Born in Gothenburg on March 12, 1890, the son of a sea captain and lighthouse keeper, he studied art in Gothenburg, while working as apprentice scene-designer at the city opera house. He switched to the Stockholm Art Academy at the age of 17, intending to be a painter, but the call of the sea, as with so many Taubes before and since, proved too strong. He sailed the seven seas from Australia to South America, settling in Argentina during the First World War, as horse rider on the Pampas. He had already begun to write regularly and to draw for *Dagens Nyheter*, and other Swedish papers. His later travel books and memoirs are eminently readable.

From 1919, when he returned to Sweden, hardly a year went by without a book of poems or other writings by him. His prose alone fills 14 volumes, his poems and songs another 19. In 1919, Taube also made his debut as a restaurant singer. He was to become Sweden's most popular cabaret, variety, and concert artist, equally familiar to radio and TV audiences. His songs were imbued with humour, drama, gaiety, narrative skill, and sheer joie de vivre. One of the few to appear in English, "My Heart is the Heart of a Boy", summed up his lifetime's cheerful philosophy.

Taube wrote a ballet *Argentina*, 1918, an opera *Apollo At Sea*, 1926, and a musical *Isabella*, 1968. He was awarded the Swedish Academy's Bellman Prize in 1950 (as the truly outstanding Swedish poet), their Large Gold Medal (1972) and, among other distinctions, an honorary doctorate of philosophy at Gothenburg University (1966). He leaves a widow, the sculptress Astri Taube, and three children—one of them, the actor Sven-Bertil Taube, who lives in England.

The Hon Audrey Mildred Fuller Acland-Hood has died at the age of 86. She was the elder daughter of the 1st Baron St Audries, who died in 1917.

Bela Czobel, the Hungarian expressionist painter, died in Budapest on January 30. He was 93.

NATHANIEL GUBBINS

Nathaniel Gubbins, the humorist and former newspaper columnist, has died in hospital in Deal, aged 82.

For more than 20 years he wrote a column for the *Sunday Express* and then moved to the *Sunday Dispatch* in 1953. He created characters and catch phrases which became household words long before the television cult. He leaves a wife, Phillida, who at the time of her marriage 53 years ago was fashion editor of the *Daily Mirror*.

Nat Gubbins probably had a large and devoted following. The Diary of a Worm was perhaps his best known feature. Among his best-loved characters were Sally the Cat, the Sweep; the Man in the Corner, and the Awful Child, inspired when his daughter asked: "What would happen if I said 'Shut up' to the Queen?"

ENG REAR-ADM C. R. P. BENNETT

Engineer Rear-Admiral Cecil Reginald Percival Bennett, CBE, died on January 29 at the age of 79.

When he was promoted engineer-rear-admiral in 195[] the Admiralty pointed out that he was the second engineer officer who had entered the Navy as an artificer to reach the Admiral's List. He saw service in the Grand Fleet in HMS Iron Duke in the First World War. He was commissioned in the old rank of Mate (E) in 1920 and attained the rank of Engineer Captain in 1944. He was Chief Engineer Sheerness Yard 1945-47, manager, Engineering Department Malta 1947-50 and HM Dockyard, Devonport, 1950-54.

EARL DE LA WARR

Lord Gladwyn writes:

Your excellent obituary notice of Buck De La Warr might perhaps be supplemented by reference to his long devotion to France and the fact that he was an Officer of the Legion of Honour, and a passionate supporter of the Free French during the war.

Perhaps he fell in love with France during a trip in his ancient Ford car in 1920 with David Crawford, Mark [] Oss and myself. We visited Rouen, Jumièges, Chartres and Bourges as enthusiastic pilgrims, and Buck ended up at Carcassone where he got engaged to his wife, Diana. He was one of the happiest and most charming of men.

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Science report

Immunology: Cancer and rejection

It is sometimes possible, using very new techniques known as immunotherapy, to help a cancer patient to reject a tumour in the same way that a transplant patient rejects a foreign graft. But the results of such therapy are unpredictable, and to improve it immunologists need to understand more about how tumour immunity develops.

An important contribution to that understanding may emerge from recent research on how the immune system recognizes cells that have been infected by certain viruses. One of those viruses has already been used in a preliminary way to induce the rejection of tumours by human patients.

The work on human patients, which was reported in the *Lancet* last summer, is extremely preliminary and the results were not dramatic. Injections of vaccinia virus into tumours of patients suffering from skin cancer very slightly reduced the extent to which the cancer spread.

The team who conducted the trial were fairly certain that it was not the virus that was killing the tumour cells, but the patient's own immune response to the viral infection of the cells. But to have any hope of making the treatment more effective they would need to know why and how the immune system was doing the killing. What the recent laboratory work has shown is that the virus probably makes the infected cell look like foreign tissue in the same way that cells of a grafted organ look foreign to the recipient.

The body recognizes tissues as "self" or "foreign" by a set of markers on the surface of the cells. Those markers are known as the histocompatibility antigens and foreign histocompatibility antigens constitute a highly effective warning system to the immune defence system of the body. The reactions they arouse in a transplant recipient are very vigorous and invariably end in the rejection of the transplant unless measures are taken to suppress them. So the idea of turning that reaction against invading tumours is attractive.

That seems to be exactly what happens, at least in some animals, if tumour cells are infected with viruses. Dr P. C. Doherty and Dr R. M. Zinkernagel, working at the Australian National University, were the first to suggest that viruses attract the attention of the immune system by altering the histocompatibility antigens of the cells they infect and making them look foreign.

They had come to that conclusion as a result of some work in mice with a virus known as LCM. Now Dr Federico Garrido, Dr Volker Schirrmacher and Dr Hiliard Festenstein at the London Hospital Medical School have taken that work farther using a different virus, vaccinia, which is the one that was used on the human cancer patients.

They infected mouse tumour cells with vaccinia virus and then tested them with various kinds of antiserum. The antisera had been raised, not against the infected cells, but against tissues from different strains of mouse. When Dr Festenstein and his colleagues found that some of those antisera reacted with the infected cells, they concluded that the virus had altered their "self" antigens to make them look foreign.

Many biologists, following Dr Zinkernagel and Dr Doherty, are now beginning to think that alteration of the "self" antigens is an important signal of viral, and perhaps also cancerous, disease and in fact that the natural function of those antigens is to convey such signals. But that idea is still controversial and some immunologists, using rather different experimental methods, have been unable to find any link between immunity to viruses and the histocompatibility antigens.

On the other hand, there is no doubt that research on the issue is gathering momentum. One of the recent recruits to the field is Dr G. M. Edelman, who won a Nobel Prize for work on the structure of antibodies and has now started investigating the question of exactly how viruses alter the cell's antigens in infection. The understanding gained from further experiments to test the new ideas may make it possible for clinicians to find better ways of exploiting the body's natural defences to conquer cancer.

By Nature-Times News Service.
Source: *Nature* (259, 228: 1976) and *Proceedings of the US National Academy of Science* (72, 5066: 1976).
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Latest wills

Mr Siegfried Emer, of Golders Green, London, left £33,473 net. After specific bequests he left the residue to the Israel Government "for the use in defence of the Israel existence".

Mr Ronald Leslie Hards, of Willesden, London, left £15,279 net. He left all his property to Willesden Scout Association.

Other estates include (net, before duty paid; duty not disclosed):
Phelps, Mrs Hildred Elinor, of Cheveley, near Newmarket £463,461
Baxter, Mr John, of Peterborough £240,067

Royal Caledonian Ball

The Royal Caledonian Ball will be held at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London, W1, on Monday, May 17. The cost of tickets for the ball is £6 each, and a combined ticket for dinner and the ball is £12. They may be obtained from the Ball Secretary at Grosvenor House from early April onwards.

Church news

Appointments:

Canon C. R. Campling, Vicar of Pershore, to be Archdeacon of Dudley and director of education for the diocese of Worcester.

The Rev J. J. Clack, Vicar of Kelbrook, diocese of Bradford, to be priest-in-charge of the united benefice of Weston with Denton, same diocese.

The Rev K. R. Gray, Vicar of Wembury, diocese of Exeter, to be priest-in-charge of Broadhempston with Woodland, same diocese.

The Rev P. Hartley, Vicar of Elstow Abbey, diocese of St Albans, to be canon residentiary of Bermuda Cathedral.

The Rev C. Lewis, curate of Barnard Castle, diocese of Durham, to be a tutor of Ripon College, Cuddesdon, diocese of Oxford.

The Rev J. S. Parry, Vicar of Chaddesden, diocese of Derby, to be Vicar of St John's, Ravenhead, St Helens, diocese of Liverpool.

The Rev C. Purvis, Vicar of Heworth and Rural Dean of Gateshead, diocese of Durham, to be Rector of St John the Baptist, Egglescliffe, same diocese.

The Rev F. W. Stephens, Rector of Cotgrave and Vicar of Owthorpe, diocese of Bradford, to be senior chaplain, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

The Rev A. Sangster, curate of Shirley, diocese of Winchester, to be Vicar of Woolston, Southampton, same diocese.

The Rev A. B. Turton, Vicar of Southborough, diocese of Rochester, to be Vicar of Histon, diocese of Ely.

Diocese of Hereford

The Rev C. J. R. Armstrong, curate of Ledbury, to be priest-in-charge of Bredenbury with Grendon Bishop and Wacton; and Edvin Ralph with Collington and Thornbury.

The Rev H. D. Broad, curate of Fareham, diocese of Portsmouth, to be Vicar of All Saints, Hereford.

The Rev P. E. Hackett, Vicar Choral of Hereford Cathedral, to be priest-in-charge of St Weonards with Orcop, Garway, Treline with Michaelchurch and Pencoyd.

The Rev B. Petty, priest-in-charge of Kimbolton with Hamnish and Middleton-on-the-Hill, to be also priest-in-charge of Pudleston with Hatfield, Stoke Prior, Humber and Docklow.

The Rev B. E. D. W. Phillips, formerly Chaplain of Howell's School, Denbigh, to be curate of Cleobury Mortimer with Hopton Wafers.

The Rev D. H. Roberts, Vicar of Newsome, diocese of Wakefield, to be Rector of Pontesbury with Cruckton.

The Rev J. G. Williams, priest-in-charge of Bishop's Frome, Evesbatch, Acton Beauchamp and Castle Frome, to be Rector of Kingsland.

Prebendary H. S. G. Thomas, to be prebendary emeritus.

Diocese of Manchester

The Rev S. Cartwright, curate of St Chad's, Rochdale, to be Vicar of St Matthew with St Aidan's, Buckley thorn, Oldham.

The Rev D. O. Forshaw, Vicar of St Nicholas's, Whitehaven, diocese of Carlisle, to be Vicar of St Luke the Physician, Benchill, Wythenshawe.

Canon J. Calderley, lately Vicar of St Matthew's, Chadderton, Rural Dean of Middleton and honorary canon of Manchester Cathedral, to be canon emeritus.

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Damages for loss of earning capacity might well have been usually included in the past as an unspecified part of general damages for pain, suffering and loss of amenity. But since *Jefford v Gee* ([1970] 2QB 130) damages under the head must be separately quantified. No damages were recoverable under the head: *Clarke v Rotax Aircraft Equipment Ltd* ([1975] 1 WLR 1570).

The court had been asked to give guidance on assessing such damages. Any guidance could only be on broad lines since cases varied almost infinitely. His Lordship thought it the wrong approach to take Mrs Smith as a yardstick and try to assess whether another plaintiff was in a better or worse position.

If at the date of the trial a plaintiff was earning as much as he was earning before the injury (as in the present case) he had no claim for loss of future earnings. If he was earning less (as in Nicholls's case), he had a claim for loss of future earnings and he might have an additional claim for loss of earning capacity if he should ever lose his present job.

In *Smith* Lord Justice Scarman said that it was wrong to describe loss of earning capacity as a "possible loss": it was "an existing loss; the plaintiff is clearly weakened to that extent, though she is protected for the time being against suffering any financial damage because she does not at present have to go into the labour market".

What had to be quantified in assessing damages was the present value of the risk that a plaintiff would at some future time suffer financial damage because of his disadvantage in the labour market.

Where the plaintiff was in work at the date of the trial the first question was what was the risk that he would at some time before the end of his working life lose that job and be thrown on the labour market. His Lordship said that the test was whether the risk was "substantial" "speculative" or "fanciful" (Lord Reid and Lord Simon of Glaisdale in *Davies v Taylor* ([1974] 207) or "real" (Lord Justice Scarman in *Smith*.)

In *deciding that question, all* sorts of factors which varied with facts of particular cases would have to be taken into account, eg, the nature and prospects of the employer's business; the plaintiff's age and qualifications; his length of service; his remaining working life; the nature of his disabilities; and any undertaking or statement of intention by his employer as to his future employment.

If the court concluded that there was no "substantial" or "real" risk of the plaintiff losing his present job for the rest of his working life, no damages would be recoverable for loss of earning capacity. But if the court decided that there was such risk, it had to assess it and quantify the damages. No mathematical calculation was possible.

In *Smith* Lord Justice Edmund Davies and Lord Justice Scarman said that the multiplier/multiplicand approach was "impossible" or "inappropriate". His Lordship did not think that they meant that the court should have no regard to the amount of earnings which a plaintiff *might* lose in the future or to the period during which he might lose them, but that the multiplier/multiplicand method could not provide a complete answer because of the many uncertainties involved.

The starting point should be the amount which a plaintiff was earning at the time of the trial and an estimate of the length of the rest of his working life. The court should then consider how great the risk of his losing his present job was and when it might materialize, remembering that he might lose a job and be thrown on the labour market more than once.

The next stage was to consider what then would be his chances of getting an equally well-paid job. Many variable factors would be relevant: the plaintiff's age; his skills; the nature of his disability; whether he was only capable of one type of work or could become capable of others; whether he was tied to working in one particular area; the general employment situation in his trade or his area or both. The court would have to make the usual discounts for the immediate receipt of a lump sum and for the general chances of life.

Mr Justice Boreham had approached the question of loss of earning capacity on the right principles. His conclusions were fully supported by evidence and it could not be said that he was wrong. The appeal should be allowed to the extent of increasing the damages for pain and suffering and loss of amenity from £2,250 to £3,000.

As to Mr Nicholls, Mr Justice Swanwick, though he seemed to have based his assessment largely on a comparison with *Smith*, had set out the right factors for assessing damages.

His Lordship thought that if Mr Nicholls, a plumber, lost his present job there was a serious risk that he would have difficulty in getting another job and, still more, an equally well-paid job. He had no other skills. There was no evidence what sort of work, other than in coal-mining, might be available to him. He was nearly 50 at the time of the trial, would not be able to do any heavy work, could not walk more than about a mile without pain and (perhaps most important) would have to have six weeks off work in a year. He was much worse off than Mr Moeliker. His chances of losing his present job were certainly no less, and his Lordship thought rather more. It was impossible to say that the judge's figure of £2,000 was excessive.

His Lordship would allow the appeal only to the extent of reducing by £690 the damages on the other heads of damages.

Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice Stephenson delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: W. H. Thompson; Tilley, Swangren, Sunderland. Mr I. G. Tyrrell, Doncaster; *Hopkin & Sons, Mansfield.*

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in order to do justice between the parties then that question was "a question of law arising in the course of the reference". There was no reason why the court should not itself amend the question or formulate it afresh at the request of one or both parties. His Lordship trusted that in future time would be saved by a simple amendment of the questions, at any rate where the facts were fully found so as to raise questions of law which the parties wanted to be stated.

The master had an overriding power to supervise the stowage as a matter of course because he was responsible for the stowage of the cargo so as to ensure the safety of the ship: *Canadian Transport Co Ltd v Court Line Ltd* ([1940] AC 934, 937-938). He was also to ensure that the cargo was stowed so as to be able to withstand the ordinary incidents of the voyage.

That was the meaning of the last words of clause 49, "he is to remain responsible for proper stowage . . .", which did not apply to the present case. For the master had been assured by Dr Ismail's brother, who appeared *to be an expert*, that the potatoes were packed in suitable bags so that no dunnage was needed and that 1,400 tons could be loaded. On that assurance the master was relieved pro tanto of his responsibility for dunnage, etc.

But even if the master did remain responsible for proper stowage and dunnaging, Dr Ismail was disentitled from relying on those strict legal rights. It was *a case of estoppel by conduct*. If a shipper or his representative superintended the stowage, or insisted on stowage in a particular manner, he could not afterwards complain if they were damaged by being stowed in a bad manner: *The Santamana* ((1923) 14 Ll L Rep 159).

It would be contrary to all fairness and to all justice that the shipper should be able to hold the master *liable for improper* stowage. In such cases of estoppel by the conduct of an agent it was not a question of "holding out" or "ostensible authority". It was a question of whether the agent was acting on behalf of the principal and within the scope of the authority conferred by him.

There was sufficient evidence to show that the brother had authority to act on Dr Ismail's behalf in regard to the loading. The owners were entitled to rely on the conversations with the brother at Alexandria in support of the allegation that Dr Ismail was estopped from asserting that the stowage was defective.

The appeal should be allowed and the award remitted to the arbitrators for further consideration.

LORD JUSTICE ORMROD, concurring, said that if questions were formulated in a limited or restrictive manner, the court should not allow itself to be rigidly confined to such questions and should adopt a broad and realistic approach to the legal problems arising from the findings of fact in the special case. As to estoppel, if an agent had authority to give instructions, the principal must as a matter of law be bound by the consequences of complying with such instructions as if he had personally given them.

LORD JUSTICE SHAW, also concurring, said that he would reject the proposition that the court's jurisdiction was limited to the decision of such questions as were in terms posed by the special case. On the findings of the arbitrators, his Lordship had no hesitation in concluding that Dr Ismail was estopped from asserting that the dunnage was insufficient or the stowage bad.

Solicitors: Holman, Fenwick & Willan; Ince & Co.

Part-time car trader not protected by HP Act

Stevenson v Beverley Bentinck Ltd

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Roskill and Lord Justice Browne

[Judgments delivered February 3]

A tool inspector who in his spare time traded in motor vehicles and who bought a Jaguar car for his own use from a rogue when the car was still the subject of a hire-purchase agreement was held not to be within the protection given to private purchasers by the Hire-Purchase Act, 1964, so that when the fraud came to light the hire-purchase company, as the true owners of the car, were entitled to repossess it.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by Mr James Stevenson of Portland Walk, Macclesfield, from Mr Justice Bridge at Manchester, giving judgment for the defendants, Beverley Bentinck Ltd, a hire-purchase finance company on Mr Stevenson's claim for damages for conversion or detinue of a car bought by him from a rogue for £1,550 and repossessed by the company.

Mr Douglas Draycott, QC, and Mr F. B. Carter for Mr Stevenson; Mr Christopher Rose, QC and Mr Oliver Wilkinson for the finance company.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that Mr Stevenson bought the car in January, 1974, from a Mr Roberts for £1,550, and had some work done on it. A couple of months later Beverley Bentinck repook it because they said they had let it out on hire-purchase to Roberts, who had no right to sell it.

Mr Stevenson said he had a good title to the car. At common law he would not have had a title at all. The true owners, the hire-purchase company, could claim it, since Roberts could not give a better title than he himself had.

But the Hire-Purchase Act, 1964, by section 27, protected a private purchaser of a car even though it was on hire-purchase. It protected him so long as he bought it in good faith and without notice of the hire-purchase agreement. So if Mr Stevenson could be regarded as a private purchaser he was protected.

But that protection did not apply to a "trade or finance purchaser"—defined in section 29(2) as "a purchaser who, at the time of the disposition made to him, carries on a business which consists, wholly or partly—(a) of purchasing motor vehicles for the purpose of offering or exposing them for sale . . ."; and "private purchaser" meant a "purchaser who, at the time of the disposition, does not carry on any such business".

Mr Stevenson was a tool inspector; but at the time of the transaction he did carry on, most evenings and at weekends the business *of purchasing motor vehicles for* the purpose of offering them for sale. In the previous 18 months he had had some 37 transactions in regard to various cars, some on his own account and some for his principal. He did therefore prima facie come within the definition of a "trade or finance purchaser".

It was said, however—and the judge had found—that he did not buy the Jaguar in that capacity: he had *bought it as a private purchaser*—for his own use or that of his son. He was selling his own Sunbeam and wanted a Jaguar and had been on the look-out for a good secondhand one. Could he in those circumstances claim the protection of the Act as a private purchaser?

He had in his favour a statement by Professor Goode on *Hire Purchase Law and Practice* (p 622) that "even a person carrying on *business as a dealer or financier* qualifies as a private purchaser if, in relation to the transaction in question, he purchases in his private capacity and not in the course of his business".

Mr Justice Bridge did not accept that submission. He thought the wording of the Act did not permit it; and his Lordship thought that the judge was right. The words of the section were different from those in the Factors Act, 1889, "in the course of his business" as a mercantile agent. The 1964 Act said only that if a person was carrying on the business of a trade or finance purchaser at the time of the disposition he did not have the protection of the Act.

Mr Draycott had done his best on the words "at the time of the disposition" and had tried to twist them to mean "in his capacity as a trade or finance purchaser"; but the section looked at the matter quite broadly, not considering the day or period on which the disposition was made.

His Lordship had no doubt that in not protecting trade or finance purchasers Parliament thought they were able to take care of themselves. The court had had *cases about the Hire Purchase In*formation service; and what every trade purchaser or motor dealer did when a car was offered to him for sale was to telephone them and ask: "Is this vehicle on hire-purchase or not?". It was unfortunate that Mr Stevenson did not seem to have been aware of that service, for if he had had as many as 37 transactions in 18 months he should have *known that people did get cars on* hire-purchase and then sell them wrongfully.

On the words of the Act Mr Stevenson was carrying on business partly as a trade purchaser and therefore he was not within the protection given to private purchasers. The appeal should be dismissed.

LORD JUSTICE ROSKILL, concurring, said that ever since hire-purchase was founded about the turn of the century there had been frauds which had caused loss to innocent parties, and the courts had had to decide as between two innocent parties where the loss should fall. At common law the true owner was never divested of his title, but as things had progressed—if that was the right term—Parliament had given limited protection to persons who bought vehicles or other goods in such circumstances.

The Factors Act, 1889, was one such instance of giving protection to innocent purchasers; the Hire-Purchase Act was another. But whereas the Factors Act unquestionably required the court to look at both the manner and the capacity in which the mercantile agent acquired possession of goods, the 1964 Act was concerned *not with capacity but with status.* Parliament had created a clear dichotomy. It might work hardship in a particular case, as it did in the present case; but the court could not stretch the construction of sections 27 and 29 merely to meet a hard case.

LORD JUSTICE BROWNE, also concurring, said that the words "at the time of" were not surplusage but were put in to indicate *in a broad way the point of time* to which one was to look. If they had been left out there would have been room for argument that one might look at various other times—the time of the original hire-purchase agreement or the time of trial or some other date.

Solicitors: Betesh & Co, Manchester; Hall, Brydon & Co, Manchester.

Convictions on alternative counts

Regina v Haddock

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal against conviction of a count on the ground that the offence charged was alternative to a more severe offence charged in another count of the same indictment of which the appellant had been convicted.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON said that the appellant, Pamela Jayne Haddock, was convicted at Warwick Crown Court (Recorder: Mr R. G. Rougier, QC) of one count of damaging property with intent to endanger life and another count of damaging property, contrary to sections 1 (2) and 1 (1), respectively, of the Criminal Damage Act, 1971. The recorder directed the jury to convict of the second count if they convicted of the first, since both were based on the same act. Both prosecution and defence counsel submitted that the two counts were alternative, but the judge rejected their view because there was no authority to support it.

Although there was no case which said that it was improper *to convict of two offences of a* similar nature arising out of the same act, commonsense said that it must be right not to convict of both offences in view of the fact that at common law a jury was competent to convict of a more severe offence instead of a lesser offence charged, and today statute provided for the conviction of an alternative offence.

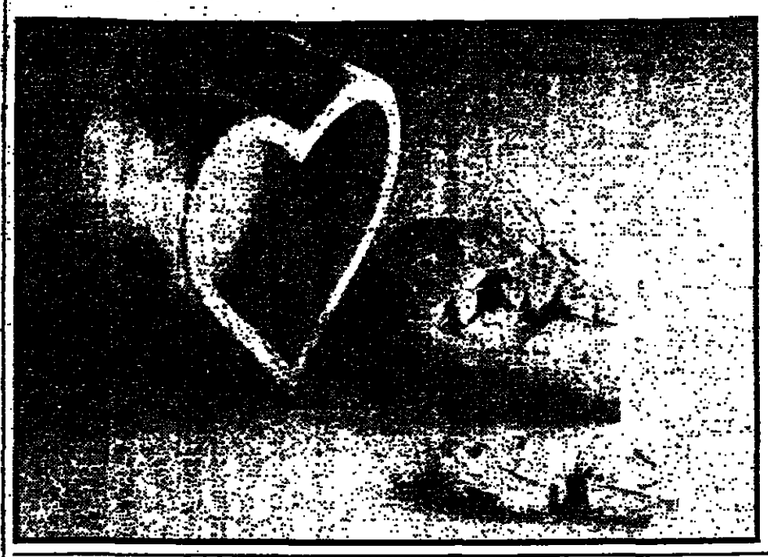
The appeal in respect of the second count had to be allowed because otherwise the two convictions would be on the appellant's record, and she would be at greater risk if she was tried before a court which did not know that the two convictions had been based on the same act.

Shopping/Shona Crawford Poole

● If you wish to make a lasting impression on a loved one, give this teasing heart of yew. It will be liked or loathed with *immoderate passion.*

The three-dimensional jigsaw puzzle and its box are cut from a single piece of wood. The puzzle is three tiers deep in parts, four in others. The only clue is the grain of the wood—unless you cheat and dismantle it methodically before attempting *to put it together again.*

Most people take about two hours to fit a scrambled heap of tricky pieces into the box, says Peter Stocken who makes the puzzles. One customer, a real trier, battled with her puzzle for six weeks before sending it back to him for reassembly.



Made in beech, elm, pear, or *padauk* (a red wood from the Andaman Islands), the heart-shaped puzzle packed in a brightly coloured cardboard box, costs £7.77. Made in English holly, yew, walnut or cherry it costs £9.59, and in rosewood or Indian laurel, £12.63. Prices include VAT. Mr Stocken also makes his puzzles in ebony. These are even more perplexing and because the wood is more expensive, and more difficult to cut, cost from £35 plus VAT.

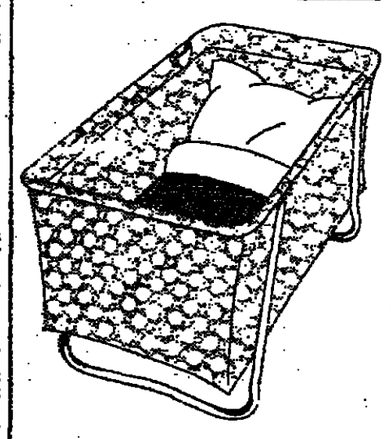
For no extra charge, a central piece on the top tier can be cut in the shape of an initial.

The puzzles are available by post direct from Puzzleplex, Stubbs Walden, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, telephone 0302-700997. Mr Stocken says he can meet telephone orders for 250 of the heart-shaped puzzles in time for St Valentine's day a week on Saturday. Enclose 25p per puzzle for postage and packing if you order one or two, 15p per puzzle for three or four, and 12p per puzzle for five or more.

Puzzleplex make lots of other shapes and designs. For a pamphlet giving details send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

There are also two London stockists—*Harrods Fine Art Shop in the new Inter*continental Hotel at Hyde Park Corner (telephone 01-409 3131), which stocks only the ebony puzzles, and Boadicea, 19 Beauchamp Place, SW3 (telephone 01-584 2682) which carries a selection.

Cot from which there is no escape



● For going on holiday, visiting grandma, or weekends away from home, this folding travel cot will be a boon to parents whose infants have reached the crawling, climbing stage. A baby who has just learned how to escape from a carry cot can safely be put in this high-sided bed from Baby Relax.

The frame is lightweight aluminium and has a patented leg-locking action. The cover, which is not removable, is orange and white cotton fabric. The foam mattress is covered in matching fabric and the mattress cover is removable. Folded, the cot measures 26in x 24in x 4½in. Open, it is 42in long by 24in high by 21in wide.

It retails for about £18. Stockists include John Lewis and Peter Jones in London, Tyrrell & Green of Southampton, Cole Brothers of Sheffield, George Henry Lee of Liverpool, Caleys of Windsor and Bainbridge of Newcastle.

Mr Hancock always travels with such good taste

● One of the reasons that Jacksons of Piccadilly feature so frequently in newspapers and magazines is that their shops stock such delicious and often fanciful things. Many of the odd or exotic delicacies on their shelves are put there by Mr Hancock, general manager of the 171 Piccadilly store.

Green peppers, pepper corns preserved in brine or vinegar and an essential ingredient of classic steak au poivre, were one of his finds. Mr Hancock had been asked for them many times before finding them on his travels abroad for Jacksons. Now green peppers are more widely available in Britain, and one of Mr Hancock's most recent imports are *poivre rose de l'isle Maurice.* These are small pink-tinted pepper corns preserved in salt vinegar. They have a distinctive flavour, would go well with fish, and a 3 ounce jar costs £1.40.

Arthur Hancock first saw Jacksons when he visited London as a schoolboy. When he returned to the city to find a job "it looked so grand I didn't dare walk into it", he says. But after eight years in the food department of the Army and Navy Stores in Victoria, and wartime service in the Army, he was approached by the then managing director of Robert Jackson & Company to take charge of the charcuterie department of the firm's Wigmore Street shop. He rose to manager of *Wigmore Street before taking over the* Piccadilly shop in 1962. (The Wigmore Street branch closed some years ago.)

"Great changes have taken place in my time", he says. "When I joined the firm we used to send country house orders by train—it was all very traditional. Then we became a shop for swingers." Jacksons comprehensive range of herbs, spices and herbal products was an early response to the back-to-nature movement of the early seventies.

Mr Hancock is infuriatingly discreet about the many famous people he has served, but he will admit to sending runny

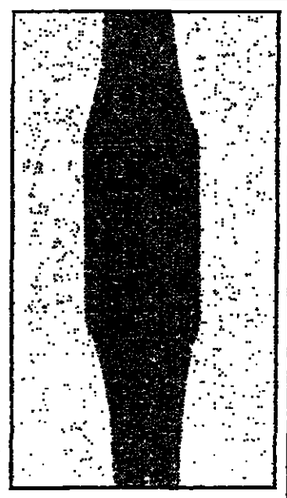


honey from a particular Scottish island to Buckingham Palace.

New additions to Jacksons' stock include palm oil at 85p for a 170 gram jar; rognons de coq at £1.50 for a 50 gram jar; and from Fauchon of Paris, raspberry vinegar, £1.30 for a 36cl bottle, and condiment a l'oseille (a mustardy sorrel sauce), £1.15 for a 200 gram jar.

Today Mr Hancock is in Paris and freeze dried green pepper corns are one of the items on his shopping list.





● With the cost of many of life's staples rising fast it is pleasing to find a product which *is* coming down in price. Like pocket electronic calculators, which *seem to become cheaper by the* month, quartz crystal watches can now be bought for less than £30.

Quartz crystal watches work on an entirely different system from the arrangement of cogs, wheels, springs and jewels we know from conventional watchmaking. Each is a sort of microcomputer incorporating a quartz crystal which is vibrated at many thousands of cycles every second by the current from a tiny battery.

Broadly, the quartz watches now being produced fall into two groups—those which convert all this electronic wizardry on to the traditional watch face we know and trust—and digital watches which tell the time in a string of numbers on the twenty-four-hour clock system at the press of a button.

Now whether any ordinary person needs to know the right time to an accuracy of 15 seconds a month or better is questionable. And as most of us glance at our watches to ascer*tain such matters as whether* we have time for a pint before the train leaves, or to see if the soufflé has had its 35 minutes in the oven, I am inclined to favour watches with faces. Mere numerate citizens may scoff.

The sporty Timex watch in the photograph costs about £29. It has a chrome plated case, *aluminium 12 hour ring, and* stainless steel back. It displays both date and day in addition to keeping remarkably accurate time. There are two more designs in the Timex quartz crystal range.

Stockists include all branches of the following shops (but do telephone before making a *special journey*): *Adlestones in* NW England, Yorkshire, Scotland and Northern Ireland; Hendersons in NE England and central Scotland; Ramers, nationally, and Ernest Jones in London and SE England.

In case of difficulty contact Timex Coporation, 97 Uxbridge Road, Ealing, London W5 (telephone 01-567 6462).

The digital "Black Watch" fom Sinclair Radionics is a splendid example of what *Design* magazine calls "anti-precious high technology". Its designers have taken a fresh and logical look at the problems and opportunities of the new watch technology and have come up with something completely different.

The case and strap are of black plastic, and the display panel is deep purple. The time, shown in hours and minutes or seconds and minutes, appears in red lights when pressure is applied to an adjoining panel.

The "Black Watch" costs £24.95 and is widely available. Stockists include Fortnum and Mason, Harrods, Selfridges, and branches of Greens, Laskys, Lewises, Underwoods, and Rymans. It is also available by post direct from the manufacturer, Sinclair Radionics, London Road, St Ives, Huntingdon, *Cambridgeshire PE17 4HJ* (telephone 0480 64646). Cheques or postal orders should be enclosed with orders, but no addition to cover postage is needed.



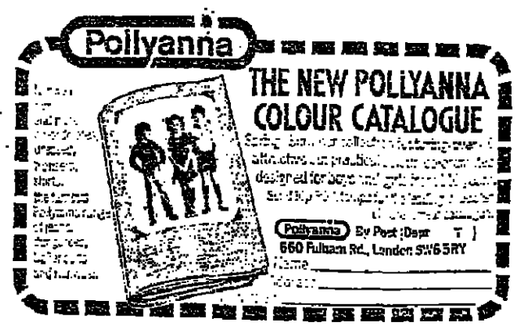
● Bugs and butterflies do not mix well with the cocoa—at least it is not generally thought so in this part of the world. But a ladybird, a blue-winged fly and an unlikely yellow beetle daintily painted on the underside of the saucer would add sparkle to anyone's washing up.

The design of this range called *Rothschild Birds* and made in Hungary by the firm of Herend bears a strong resemblance to Meissen's pattern *Birds.* The greatest difference apparent to non-experts in these matters, apart, of course from the makers' marks, is a less restrained use of colour and gilt on the handles of the Herend pieces.

A single cup and saucer made by Herend costs £5 and a similar one by Meissen, £24.25. A full dinner service for twelve people cost £250 from Herend, or about £2,700 from Meissen. Thomas Goode & Company of 19 South Audley Street, London W1Y 6BN (telephone 01-499 2823) stock both.

Thomas Goode is one of the dwindling band of shops still offering a wedding list service. A bride with a taste for traditional patterns would be very hard to please indeed if she did not find something to her taste in South Audley Street.

The shop's most diverting display, of dinner plates *supplied to royal households* all over the world, reflects changing circumstances and tastes. To modern eyes Queen Victoria's heavily decorated plates look gaudy now beside the simple pattern chosen by her great-great-great granddaughter Mrs Mark Phillips.



Stock Exchange Prices

Firm tone held

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 26. Dealings End, Feb 6. § Contango Day, Feb 9. Settlement Day, Feb 17

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

BRITISH FUNDS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

FOREIGN STOCKS

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

M—N

O—S

T—Z

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

SHIPPING

MINES

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

The Times Share Indices for 94 industrials base date June 2, 1964 original base date June 2, 1935:—

	Index No.	Div. Yield	Earn. Yield Gross
	Latest	%	%
The Times Industrial Share Index	179.26	5.09	9.95
Largest Cos.	170.24	5.52	10.13
Smaller Cos.	171.97	5.38	9.16
Capital Goods	179.34	5.97	9.34
Consumer Goods	154.79	5.74	10.23
Store Shares	149.01	5.56	8.80
Largest financial shares	206.62	4.97	—
Largest financial and industrial shares	177.49	5.42	—
Commodity shares	212.41	4.09	8.70
Gold Mining shares	424.52	1.41	11.45
Industrial debenture stocks	82.72	7.29	—
Industrial preferences stocks	86.08	12.67	—
3½% War Loan	27½	13.09	—

A record of The Times Industrial Share Indices is given below:—

	High	Low
All-time	198.47 (15.08.75)	69.14 (12.12.74)
1976	179.26 (30.01.76)	166.35 (05.01.76)
1975	198.92 (19.11.75)	69.14 (12.12.74)
1974	136.19 (23.02.74)	94.12 (27.12.74)
1973	199.30 (12.01.73)	129.88 (10.12.73)
1972	198.27 (13.08.72)	154.68 (20.12.72)
1971	174.77 (31.12.71)	125.25 (08.02.71)

* Flat interest yield.

صكذا من الاصل

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

NCR
Computers & Terminals
NCR Limited 206 Marylebone Road London NW1

Euroloan by two groups for re field

among the largest United Kingdom oil fields along with Ninian and behind Forties and Brent.

As well as the $100m of limited recourse credit being raised by TNS, Thomson North Sea Finance, another wholly owned subsidiary of TSA, has arranged a $40m full recourse loan to meet development costs on Piper or Claymore, which is repayable not later than 1983. This is from a syndicate led by the Royal Bank of Canada.

The $100m was all that Thomson could raise on a project basis for Claymore but while part of the $40m additional loan may be devoted to that field Thomson is confident that its cash flows from Claymore will be adequate to meet "all related debts".

In fact it is estimated that on "all reasonable assumptions" Thomson should be able to generate enough revenues from its North Sea interests to pay off all borrowings in connexion with them by the end of 1978.

Since 1971, the Thomson Organisation, in which TSA and other Thomson family companies have a shareholding aggregating 80 per cent, has held an option to acquire at cost 90 per cent of TSA's North Sea interests.

There is no present intention of exercising this option and TSA would want to see Piper and Claymore clear of all debt obligations before the option were exercised. Meanwhile, the $40m loan is being taken up against the general credit of Thomson Scottish Associates.

With these two latest loans, Thomson has $296m available to meet its shares of the capital and interest costs of Piper and Claymore. This includes some allowance for overspend.

Roger Vielvoye writes: The Government is to rush an emergency regulation through Parliament to correct a technical problem over the Occidental Group's title to the licence covering the Claymore field.

Originally the Piper and Claymore field blocks were the subject of a single licence covering six offshore blocks. As a result of the Piper financing deal, the block containing Claymore and four others was removed and put into a new licence.

The Department of Energy says it should have advertised the new licence through the *London Gazette*, but because of an oversight this did not happen. In theory, other companies could have bid for the new licence, but as the department is the issuing authority it is unlikely any new application would have been successful.

Banks involved in the Claymore financing are aware of this problem and have been indemnified by the Government against a successful challenge to the ownership of the block.

Necessity to hang together: Financial Editor; Business Diary, page 21

Peace plan vote today by Chrysler strikers

By R. W. Shakespeare

Chrysler has escaped from the crisis which threatened to bring the collapse of its £162m rescue deal with the Government by a settlement which is an almost complete capitulation to demands by strike leaders at its Linwood car plant in Scotland.

This morning the 4,700 workers who have been on unofficial strike for the past week will be recommended by their shop stewards to accept the peace formula worked out with the company at the London offices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service late on Tuesday night.

Under these proposals the 57 workers who have been transferred to Linwood from a packing plant that has been closed at Johnstone near by will get a wage increase of £1.10 a week pending a new wage deal in June.

This is precisely what the strike has been all about, because the increase will bring the basic rate of these workers into line with the Linwood men in a newly opened packing department.

Chrysler had maintained that it could not pay any more money before the next general wages deal, because all the workers concerned have already had the maximum £6 a week allowed under the Government's pay code.

Because the peace formula was worked out under ACAS guidance, it is unlikely to fall foul of government policy, but it seems clear that the pay code criteria have been significantly bent to accommodate the increases being offered.

This has been done by invoking an escape clause which allows for extra increases when "job content" has been altered.

After a full meeting of the Linwood shop stewards yesterday, at which there was a unanimous vote to recommend acceptance, Mr John Carty, the senior convener, said: "We feel that it was tragic that we have had to be involved in this dispute, but we welcome the fact that the workers have been proved right."

He said the basis on which the settlement terms had been reached were "a subtle matter".

Chrysler must be viewing the outcome with mixed feelings. Having already received the first payment of £12m from the Government, it saw the whole rescue operation brought to the brink of collapse at the very moment when it was urgently needing a second injection of money.

The peace formula has made this possible, but the success of militant action at Linwood must leave the American-owned car company—which only reluctantly changed its mind about pulling out of Britain altogether—with misgivings about the kind of confrontation it may have to face when it comes to carry out all the other changes in the pipeline.

Leading article, page 15
Chrysler franchise switch, page 20

Banks ready to sue Maritime Fruit

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Feb 4

Maritime Fruit Carriers which has a close relationship with Swan Hunter, the Tyneside shipbuilding group, has acute cash-flow difficulties and has failed to repay interest and principal on a large share of its outstanding loans, according to the company's new president, Mr Sarwar Hensel.

The company is now facing legal action from some of its lending banks, as well as from supply and service creditors, he said today.

Swan Hunter has a 25 per cent interest in Swan Maritime, an MFC subsidiary which has options on a large number of ships with the Tyneside company.

The serious financial difficulties at MFC led to a big restructure of the company's management last weekend and Mr Hensel issued a statement today.

Mr Hensel, who has been president of MFC for only three days, said a preliminary review has indicated that MFC had failed to make payments and was thus in default under the terms of certain loan agreements for $23.5m (£12m) on total loans of $88.5m.

It is believed these loans are now being renegotiated, with MFC striving to get agreements extended for some years. Critical negotiations on these loans are to be held in London with banks and financial institutions by Mr Hensel during the next few weeks. MFC would not disclose which banks are involved, but some London institutions figure prominently among the creditors.

Mr Hensel noted that some of the banks and financial institutions which have not been paid on schedule under the loan agreements, have made demands for immediate payment in full and other creditors may make similar demands.

It is uncertain at the moment whether the default could result, under the conditions of the loans, in MFC being forced to repay fully the $88.5m total in the immediate future.

The seriousness of the company's cash-flow situation is underlined by Mr Hensel's statement regarding service and supply creditors. He said that according to present information approximately $15m of payments to these creditors was overdue and these creditors "were taking or have threatened to take legal action".

However, he stressed that no actions have yet been instituted by creditors that could seriously interfere with the operation of the company.

A company spokesman had no comment to make on the statement made to *The Times* by MFC executives 10 days ago that one MFC ship is about to be sold and payment for this ship would greatly strengthen the company's immediate financial condition.

Mr Hensel pointed out that MFC's most recently filed financial report, for the period to last September 30, showed that the company had assets of $559m and total liabilities of $489.4m.

It could well be that the asset values have declined since the report was issued, while the liabilities could have increased. MFC officials today noted only that the final 1975 figures have not yet been completed.

Mr Hensel plans to move the company's headquarters to London from New York.

Hartley Baird deal broke law report says

By Margaret Walters

The acquisition of a public company by Dr Kurt Wallersteiner without payment of the full purchase price is a story "unique in commercial annals" according to the Department of Trade report into Hartley Baird, published yesterday.

The report, the first of two begun in September 1973, deals with the acquisition and ownership of a controlling interest in Hartley Baird in 1962, and alleges "there is prima facie evidence that Dr Wallersteiner committed breaches of civil and company law".

Dr Wallersteiner, the inspectors state, "was able to carry out this ingenious scheme because he is a man of considerable personality, intelligence and charm, with great powers of persuasion.

"But", they contend, "at no time did Dr Wallersteiner contemplate paying cash for the HB shares, neither was he, nor his associated concerns in a position to do so."

In 1962 Dr Wallersteiner, aged 56, who describes himself as a chemical engineer and operates through a series of German companies and Liechtenstein-based trusts, contracted to purchase some 80 per cent of Hartley Baird from Camp Bird, a public company now in liquidation, for about £518,000.

The Stock Exchange was informed that a consortium, described by the inspectors as "a ruse to inspire confidence," was the purchaser.

An investment bank called the Rothschild Trust, operating from Liechtenstein, was one of Dr Wallersteiner's main companies. He claimed that the cost of purchasing the Hartley Baird shares from Camp Bird was offset by commissions and other charges due to him from the vendor.

He also, the inspectors allege, devised a circular cheque transaction which resulted in Hartley Baird's paying out considerable sums of money to settle debts due to itself from the Camp Bird group.

The inspectors, Mr John Hazan, QC; Mr Thomas Harding, FCA; and Mr Alistair Troup, say that "for the most part" they do not accept the accounts for the commission agreements produced by Dr Wallersteiner, and conclude that of the £518,000 purchase price some £460,000 is still owing.

In order to release part of the Hartley Baird holding from Pearl Assurance to whom it had been pledged, Hartley Baird paid out £50,000 as a "mere cloak to disguise the fact that £50,000 belonging to two of their company's subsidiaries was to be applied in paying off part of the Pearl loan to CB".

With the exception of Sir Harold Lydford who, in the opinion of the inspectors, "clearly had no experience whatsoever of the business world", the report alleges that all the Hartley Baird directors party to the transaction were in breach of section 54 of the Companies Act 1948.



Lord Ryder yesterday: No progress possible without risks.

Ryder plea for faith in Equity Bank

By Maurice Corina

Institutional investors with reservations about the proposed Equity Bank were urged yesterday by Lord Ryder, chairman of the National Enterprise Board, to show more faith and a willingness to take risks.

Lord Ryder's intervention in the City's current debate about the role of a new institution came during a speech to the Newspaper Society about the role of his own state investment and holding corporation. He said one symptom of Britain's present difficulties had been the inability of traditional market institutions to meet investment needs at a price which investors could afford to pay.

After praising Finance For Industry, Lord Ryder said: "I very much hope that the Equity Bank will eventually get off the ground.

"Commitment to the idea does involve an element of faith, and many institutions feel that their first duty lies in a more cautious approach. Nevertheless, no progress is possible without some willingness to take risks."

Management shake-up at Town & Commercial

By John Brennan

As Charles Spreckley Industries went into receivership last night, it emerged that major management changes and a possible capital reconstruction were under discussion at Town & Commercial Properties, the £150m property group 35 per cent owned by Spreckley.

Spreckley, a shopfitting, contracting and property company, in which the Slater, Walker group is believed to have up to £20m of outstanding loans, failed to reach agreement with its bankers in talks to raise additional working capital for its building operation. It had asked for its share listing to be suspended on Monday.

The Spreckley management has therefore requested the National Westminster Bank to appoint a receiver to the company.

NatWest has appointed Mr F. S. McWhirter of Peat, Marwick Mitchell as receiver for Spreckley and its principal building operations, and Barclays Bank has appointed Mr N. Lyle of Thornton Baker as receiver for two of the engineering and building service companies.

The Spreckley board hopes that some arrangement can be made to float off the property development side of the business, which is essentially the Associate Development Holdings group acquired through Slater, Walker in a reverse takeover in 1972.

Through A D H, Spreckley holds a 35 per cent shareholding in Town & Commercial, which Spreckley's chairman, Mr Jack Walker talked of earlier this week as "being up for grabs again" once the receivers moved into Spreckley.

This shareholding is, however, part of the security held by Slater, Walker companies against loans to Spreckley and its associated companies.

The new management at Slater, Walker has yet to decide what to do with the shares, which are believed to have cost just under £6.4m in 1972. Their current market value is just £422,000.

At T & C, Mr John Hines, who stepped down as managing director last April in favour of Mr Jack Walker, recovered the management reins last night.

He is to become managing director again, and the two Spreckley board members, Mr Walker and Mr Ramon Greene, remain on the board, but lose their executive responsibilities.

Mr Hines confirmed that the company had been discussing the possibility of a form of partial capital reconstruction with the merchant bankers Kleinwort Benson.

But he firmly denied recent market speculation about any reconstruction which would reduce the equity interests of the holders of T & C's ordinary shares.

Financial Editor, page 21

Narodny brake on group

Moscow Narodny Bank said in Singapore yesterday that Mosbert Holdings, a Hongkong based financial conglomerate, had agreed to go into voluntary liquidation after the bank had stated that it would not grant further banking assistance.

Mr P. Teo, Narodny's Singapore manager, said the bank would take legal action to recover outstanding loans of around $40m (£20m) to Mosbert and its associates.

There was no confirmation from Mosbert, which is headed by Mr Amos Dawes, although Narodny claims that the decision to liquidate came after discussion between Mosbert and the bank, the chief creditor.

Narodny's decision to withdraw banking assistance was conveyed in letters to the Singapore Stock Exchange and to Mosbert's solicitors. Mr Teo said that an investigation into Mosbert by the bank's auditors, Peat Marwick Mitchell, had revealed "adverse factors" not known when the bank agreed to advance further facilities a month ago.

The position of Asia Land, which holds a 25 per cent stake in Mosbert, is uncertain.

Japan move to combat speculation on yen rise

By Melvyn Westlake

It was the turn of the Japanese yen to experience heavy speculative buying yesterday as conditions on the European currency markets became more subdued.

In Tokyo the Bank of Japan was reported to have suspended its dollar support operations after being forced to purchase some $200m (£100m) in an attempt to prevent the yen rising further against the American currency.

Strong buying of the yen continued later on European foreign exchanges after the Japanese markets had closed. As a result, the yen advanced to its strongest level for almost four months, closing at 300.25 against the dollar.

Heavy buying of short-term Japanese government securities appeared to have been one of the main contributing factors to the yen's strength. Many Tokyo analysts predict that the yen will continue to advance against the dollar during the next few months in parallel with an expected upturn in the country's exports.

With the West German mark also advancing further in European trading, the Bank of France was again reported to have supported the franc.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Belgian central bank in Brussels confessed to having been surprised at the extent of speculation last week against the weaker currencies within the European joint float, particularly the Belgian franc. Some $230m had been spent last week propping it up.

Recent rumours of a possible break-up of the joint float were described as "completely unfounded". However, the implications of the recent rise in the Deutsche mark are expected to be discussed today at the regular German federal bank council meeting.

In Milan, there was considerable speculation that the Italian authorities would soon announce a package of monetary measures to protect the lira. Sterling held firm, rising 30 points against the dollar to $2.0310.

Dealers seek minimum price for petrol

By Derek Harris

The Petroleum Retailers' Association, whose independent operator members have been hit by the petrol price-cutting war, yesterday put its case for a statutory minimum price for petrol to Mr Alan Williams, Minister of State at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection.

The PRA is particularly alarmed at price-cutting by hypermarkets and superstores in the north of England and the Midlands, and they were joined by the Motor Agents' Association at the meeting in drawing attention to the disruptive effects on the trade of the store sales.

But the MAA did not support the PRA's demand for establishing minimum prices, according to Mr Geoffrey Atkinson, the PRA general secretary.

He said after the meeting that his association would now ask for a private meeting with the minister.

The PRA may not find it easy to persuade the Department of Prices to put its weight behind the idea of a statutory minimum price, necessary if the Department of Energy were to make the final decision to establish one.

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, who has already made it clear that in general she welcomed commercial competition as a means of keeping prices down, would need convincing evidence that the lack of a minimum price was to the disadvantage of the consumer.

PRA has welcomed the recent reference of the wholesale supply of petrol to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The commission will particularly look at the extent to which exclusive retail outlets are being secured by the major oil companies.

But the PRA claim that unless action is taken immediately to establish a minimum petrol price the commission's investigation, for which there is a two-year time limit, might turn out to be a waste of taxpayers' money.

It has become increasingly worried at the number of petrol stations, hitherto run by tenants, which are taken over by the big oil companies who then put in managers.

French pact on short-time working

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 4

After only two sessions of negotiation, the Employers' Federation and all five national trade union organizations yesterday signed an agreement to compensate workers placed on short time.

The agreement will grant the 400,000 workers now in this position 50 per cent of the loss of their gross wage under the national minimum working week of 40 hours. The minimum hourly compensation will also be increased from 7 to 7.70 francs, rising to 7.90 francs on July 1.

The unions are not altogether satisfied with the agreement. They would have liked it to cover all hours lost through short time, and not just those under 40 hours—the average week worked in France at present is 42 hours—and a minimum compensation equivalent to the national minimum hourly wage, which is 7.89 francs since January 1.

Fisheries £2m loss

landings which cut trawling turnover by £3m to £37m after contributing £5.4m to the £6.2m first-half profit reverse.

In line with EEC policy, this subsidy was phased out at the end of last year. The company is hoping to be in profit in the current financial year, but the extent of the recovery hinges on the outcome of the present dispute with Iceland.

Shares in Associated Fisheries, in which a 34.8 per cent interest is held by commodity trading group Eastern Produce, closed unchanged at 27p.

Financial Editor, page 21

How the markets moved

The Times index: 170.95 +1.65
The FT index: 414.4 +4.9

Rises

Ass Port Cement	2p to 184p	Imp Chem Ind	6p to 386p
Burmah Oil	3p to 50p	Peko Wallsend	20p to 520p
Beecham Grp	2p to 357p	Rotaflex	3p to 27p
Brit Am Tob	9p to 375p	Shell	4p to 392p
British Land	34p to 394p	Unilever	10p to 460p
EMI	7p to 255p	Union Discount	7p to 367p
GKN	5p to 311p	Vibroplant	11p to 122p

Falls

Appleyard	3p to 48p	Priest, E.	3p to 50p
Aust & NZ	8p to 420p	Rank Ord	7p to 170p
Barclays Bk	2p to 344p	Smithfust	7p to 203p
Bracken Mines	10p to 180p	Town & Com	1p to 12p
Bk of NSW	10p to 660p	Taylor PaBis	4p to 54p
Glass & Metal	44p to 613p	Western Areas	20p to 255p
Harmony	20p to 450p	Welkom	5p to 310p

Equities advanced strongly.
Gilt-edged securities saw prices fluctuate widely.
Sterling rose 30 pts to $2.0310. The "effective devaluation" rate was 30.1 per cent.
Gold fell $1.50 an ounce to $129.75.
SDR-$ was 1.17037 on Wednesday while SDR-£ was 0.576281.
Commodities: Reuter's index was at 1212.9 (previous 1210.4).

Reports, pages 22 and 23

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.62	1.61
Austria Sch	33.25	36.25
Belgium Fr	83.75	80.75
Canada $	2.07	2.02
Denmark Kr	12.80	12.40
Finland Mkk	8.00	7.75
France Fr	9.25	8.95
Germany Dm	5.35	5.15
Greece Dr	80.00	75.00
Hongkong $	10.40	10.00
Italy Lr	1775.00	1710.00
Japan Yn	640.00	615.00
Netherlands Gld	5.50	5.30
Norway Kr	11.50	11.15
Portugal Esc	69.00	60.00
S. Africa Rd	3.24	2.00
Spain Pes	125.00	119.50
Sweden Kr	9.05	8.75
Switzerland Fr	5.35	5.15
US $	2.07	2.02
Yugoslavia Dnr	40.50	37.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

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20 Chrysler dealers seeking switch to VW/Audi franchise

By Edward Townsend

Twenty "high class" Chrysler car dealers are among the 70 applicants being considered by Volkswagen GB as VW/Audi franchise holders.

The United Kingdom distributor for the German car company is planning to expand its 350-strong dealer network to about 400 this year. A spokesman said yesterday that nine new dealers had already been appointed, of which three were former Chrysler dealers.

It was stressed that the 20 Chrysler dealers now being considered were all "good class prospects". When speculation about the future of Chrysler UK was at its most intense, Volkswagen GB had inquiries from 40 to 50 dealers about switching their allegiance. Many of these, said the spokesman, were just "nibbles".

VW/Audi was the third largest importer in Britain last year with a market share of 4.03 per cent, just behind Renault's 4.7 per cent. During the year sales of VW and Audi cars rose by more than 9,000 on the previous year to a total of 48,197.

Meanwhile the deal under which the Chrysler Corporation of America is to buy up to 300,000 Volkswagen engines and 120,000 axles for a new American-built small car has come under attack from a British union leader.

Mr Ray Edwards, assistant general secretary of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff, described the deal as "the final confirmation of the economic lunacy of Chrysler management in Detroit".

He told the union's automotive industry committee in London that the loss of jobs at Chrysler UK and in Detroit meant that as much as possible of the production for the new car should be kept within Chrysler plants.

"This latest development clearly shows that as an employer Chrysler is bereft of responsibility. Some of the work now given to Volkswagen could have been utilized to maintain jobs in the British plants, particularly Coventry, where first class engine building facilities already exist."

Despite British Leyland's decision to withdraw the Marina from the American market, the company managed to maintain its United States sales level last month thanks to a considerable boost in sports car sales. Total BL sales there in January were 3,341.



One of the potential insurance losses which may have to be reckoned with this year—the 275,000-ton supertanker Olympic Bravery, still grounded on the Ushant rocks off the north-west coast of France.

£122m shipping casualties bill last year

World shipping casualties last year cost a record £122m compared with £117m in 1974, according to figures issued at Lloyd's yesterday.

These statistics covering lost or damaged vessels worth more than £500,000 in each case show that the gross tonnage of such vessels damaged or lost totalled 802,593, compared with the previous record of 681,706 tons.

The bulk of the lost shipping was heavily insured in London. Details for smaller-tonnage vessels have still to be included. Ship repair costs are rising steeply and are affecting the insurance market, as marine insurers pointed out last week.

The Lloyd's report shows that 14 of last year's casualties were registered under the Panamanian flag, 11 were Liberian, three Cypriot, and 14 were registered in Greece.

This total of 42 ships from four countries represents nearly two-thirds of the world's main shipping losses. The heaviest loss was the Greek tanker Kriti Sun, 61,054 gross tons, valued at nearly £15m, which was struck by lightning off Singapore last October.

MPs to see Midland plants

Public hearings by the committee of MPs investigating the government-backed Chrysler rescue will move from the House of Commons next week to the company's Midland car plants.

The MPs, who form the trade and industry sub-committee of the Commons Expenditure Committee, are planning to spend two days touring the Ryton car assembly plant just outside Coventry.

They will also visit the Stoke engine and transmission factory in the city and the Whitley technical centre nearby, which also houses the Chrysler UK headquarters.

Chrysler has agreed to the committee's taking evidence inside the factories from plant management and shop stewards.

Yesterday the committee went into private session to hear evidence from the Industrial Development Advisory Board, which considered that the final scheme for saving Chrysler UK did not offer prospects of viability, and the Department of Industry's Industrial Development Unit.

The IDAB, which felt that the serious social, industrial and balance of payments considerations offset the lack of commercial viability, decided that state aid was warranted on condition that there should be a greater capital contribution from the Chrysler Corporation.

Call for lorry tax cuts

European governments should reduce taxation where it affected commercial vehicles and speed moves towards standardization of vehicle weights, Sir William Batty, president of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said last night.

In a speech on the eve of the Amsterdam commercial motor show, Sir William issued a warning to the European Commission and member states that inappropriate haste to harmonize taxation of vehicle use could, either through increases in the taxes on vehicles, or on the fuel they used, only add to inflation and reduce the competitiveness of EEC industries in world markets.

"In the case of commercial vehicles, as in almost everything else, the public benefit today lies in less taxation, not more. This is the essential message governments must take on board."

Rolls-Royce sets up new aero division

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

In a major rationalization programme announced yesterday, Rolls-Royce is to merge the aero engine divisions at Derby and Bristol into one unit, to be called the Rolls-Royce (1971) Aero Division.

The move affects 34,000 employees in the Derby engine division based at Derby, Hucknall, Mountsorrel, Barnoldswick, Dundonald, Sunderland and Glasgow, and 20,000 in the Bristol engine division at Bristol and Coventry.

The 3,700 employees in the small engine division at Leavesden were merged recently into the Derby division.

Under the new establishment, which takes effect from Monday, Rolls-Royce will have two divisions, the aero division, and the industrial and marine division, with 1,450 employees at Anstey.

Mr D. A. Head, managing director of the Derby engine division, is to lead the new aero division, assisted by Mr R. T. Whitfield, managing director at Bristol.

Whitehall to announce steel study team

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Establishment of a top-level committee to prepare a detailed study on the prospects for the iron and steel industry, will be announced shortly by the National Economic Development Office.

It will be made up of two representatives each from the British Steel Corporation, the private sector of the steel industry, government, and the steel industry trade unions.

It is understood that the BSC representatives will be Mr David Waterstone, managing director-commercial and Mr James Driscoll managing director in charge of corporate strategy.

Mr Alec Mortimer, director of the British Independent Steel Producers' Association, will be one of the two private sector representatives, with Mr Bill Sirs, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and chairman of the TUC steel industry committee, almost ceertain to be one of the two trade union members.

Whitehall attaches great significance to the work of the team, given the importance of the steel industry to the rest of manufacturing. The BSC in particular, has proved to be a serious source of bottlenecks in the past when the economy has been moving out of recession.

This has led to serious constraints on manufacturing industry and has produced a surge in steel imports. It was to prevent this happening again that the Government announced at the end of last year the provision of £70m in the form of increased public dividend capital and loans from the National Loans Fund to the BSC to support the build-up of stock of about 800,000 tonnes of semi-finished steel.

Sir Ronald McIntosh, Director-General of NEDO, also attaches great importance to a similar government - financed scheme being provided for the private steel sector.

Shipbuilders' president to serve on state board

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Further appointments to the organizing committee of British Shipbuilders, the proposed new state corporation, are expected to be announced before the end of this month.

Mr A. Ross Belch, president of the Shipbuilders and Repairers National Association, and principal spokesman for the industry against nationalization, has apparently indicated that he would be prepared to join the committee as a part-time member.

A prominent trade unionist is also to be appointed a part-time member.

He will be selected from a list of nominations put to Mr Varley by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

Members of the organizing committee, led by its chairman, Sir Anthony Griffin, yesterday met 15 members of the CSEU's shipbuilding and ship repairing committee to discuss the situation and outlined to the unions the broad approach being adopted in planning the future strategy of the industry.

The recruitment of Mr Belch to the organizing committee is seen as a considerable coup both for the Government and for the full-time members of the organizing committee. Although he has consistently spoken against nationalization he has always made it equally clear that he and the industry would cooperate in ensuring that the state-owned industry was put on a sound footing from the start.

Mr Belch, managing director of the Scott Lithgow Group, is familiar with shipbuilding's problems both in this country and overseas. He also shares the view of the organizing committee's deputy chairman and chief executive, Mr J. Graham Day, that the industry must operate on the basis of a coherent national policy and that its marketing activities must be refined.

There is an urgency about naming further members of the board of the new state body, given the steadily deteriorating position, with no sign of any orders flowing into yards.

These and other fears were raised by the trade union team led by Mr Dan McGarvey, the boilermakers' leader, at yesterday's meeting.

Bonn offers Portugal $250m loan

From Peter Norman
Bonn, Feb 4

West Germany's federal bank is making a $250m (about £125m) gold-backed loan to Portugal. The credit will be made to the Portuguese national bank for six months and may be extended for three further periods of six months.

As collateral the Portuguese bank will place a corresponding amount of gold with its German counterpart. Interest charged will be in line with yields the federal bank obtains from United States Treasury Bills.

How the gold backing for the loan is being valued was not disclosed. It would remain secret to avoid disturbing the international gold market, Bonn government sources added.

The operation is similar to the $2,000m gold-backed monetary credit the federal bank made to its Italian opposite at the Bellagio monetary meeting in September, 1974.

The credit was due to be announced tomorrow with the visit to Lisbon by Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister. However, is was decided to announce the scheme to stop speculation and rumours.

Even though the credit is goldbacked the fact that it is being granted reflects German confidence in Portugal's economic and political future.

Bonn has also promised Portugal DM70m capital aid and the European Community has offered the country project-linked loans of more than DM500m.

Power chief denies Benn charge

Sir Peter Menzies, chairman of the Electricity Council, said he was surprised to hear of "arm-twisting" that took place in the Government's relations with the electricity industry.

He was commenting on proposals by Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, that the Government should build greater powers of direction on policy matters into the constitution of any reorganized electricity industry in England and Wales.

Sir Peter told a Parliamentary Select Committee on Nationalized Industries that there was a "sensible" relationship between the Government and the industry and as far as he knew there were no directives nor arm-twisting.

Mr Benn had said that because ministers could not give directives to industry chairmen on policies the Government thought should be carried out, private arm-twisting had to take place which caused bad feeling on both sides.

Building survey stays gloomy on prospects

Britain's building industry is still in the midst of its worst recession since the war and there are no signs of improvement, according to the latest state of trade enquiry conducted in January by the National Federation of Building Trades Employers.

The survey, published yesterday, covers a cross section of 700 concerns.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dressing Chequers industrial strategy in new clothes

From Mr Nigel Lawson, Conservative MP for Blaby

Sir, I am glad to see the prominence you have given today to the Government's important document on "Criteria for assistance to industry"; and your industrial editor is undoubtedly right to draw special attention to the emphasis this document places on the key role of a receiver or a liquidator when a company gets into difficulties.

Alas, however, he is wholly mistaken when he states that what we have here are new Government rules which represent a tightening up in the wake of the Chrysler "rescue" operation.

The allegedly new document is, to all intents and purposes, a paper prepared by the Department of Industry last October for the much-publicized Neddy meeting at Chequers on Guy Fawkes day last year, when it was marked "confidential" and given the code-name of "NEDC (75) 67".

(You will see that it was referred to as such in the Government paper on industrial strategy which you published in full on page 22 of your issue of November 6, 1975.) It was not, however, made available to Parliament until January 12 this year, and then only in response to a written mine to the Secret for Industry, which before the Christm

In other words, representing welc Chrysler second the Government's document in fact co very essence of the trial strategy" so claimed at Che November, and so pudiated, to Mr Ve standable chagrin first test.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL LAWSON,
House of Commons
London SW1.
February 3.

PO Telephones repair service: some unsatisfactory issues

From Sir William J. Lithgow

Sir, Mr Martin of Post Office Telecommunications assures us (January 28) that his organization's standards of repair service are at least comparable to that of other public utilities. I don't know whether people in London are in the habit of sitting in the dark with neither water nor gas at the weekend, but then he has bettered the Scottish Telecommunication Board chairman's assertion that they do not repair faults outwith normal working hours, by claiming that at least 60 per cent of faults reported between 9 am and 5 pm Monday to Friday, and between 8 am and 1.30 pm on Saturday are cleared the same day, frequently by extending work outside these times. I have been waiting patiently for the business line in this house to be repaired for over a week.

It is appreciated that a 24-hours, seven day a week, service for emergency classified lines is maintained, and it is some encouragement to know that there is currently an examination to see if this can be extended to other customers. In point of fact, our ferries are regularly engaged on ambulance work, search and rescue, as well as carrying urgently required drugs, but were we to be classified as an emergency service, we would be gaining a commercial advantage over our heavily subsidized state competitor.

We are used to paying our own way, and are perfectly prepared to pay an insurance premium to cover the cost of the weekend overtime involved in repairs which, we are told, should only be necessary less than once a year. Mr Martin writes of the convenience to customers; I am more anxious about the inconvenience caused to customers, and in particular our own, by the failure of PO equipment.

It is clear that a much greater sense of commercial awareness is required if this country is to get back on its feet. Something more than a grudging acknowledgment of customers' interests is called for from a state controlled corporation. Were the Post Office a really commercial organization, rather than a pretend one, area managers would be free to take decisions and make a deal with a customer who needs a seven day service. In the meanwhile, we are still left to draw our own conclusions as to who or what causes the Post Office's management hang-up.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM J. LITHGOW,
Drums,
Langbank,
Renfrewshire PA14 6YH.
February 2.

Pricing policy for hydrocarbons

From Mr J. H. Goodland

Sir, The renewed call for a revenue earning tax on gas supplies by the chairman of the CEGB ("Power chief urges tax on gas to narrow differential on fuel costs", January 30) would make more sense if it were to be applied to all hydrocarbons, whether imported or indigenous.

The present position is ridiculous, and throws doubt on the existence of a coherent energy policy:

falling electricity sales,
mounting coal stocks,
further increases in coal prices,
consequent increases in electricity prices,
oil replaces coal for electricity generation,
escalating costs of North Sea oil,
minimum price demand for imported oil,
year's freeze on gas prices,
impending exhaustion of natural gas in southern basin,
falling petrol prices.

The only basis for an energy policy is to achieve a greater independence consistent with the conservation of scarce indigenous sources.

This could be achieved by a fiscal policy in the form of a hydrocarbon depletion or conservation tax, based at first on, say, 1p a therm (the present oil import tax is 1p a gallon, 0.6p a therm) on imported oil and gas (United Kingdom North Sea oil supplies and new gas supplies being subject to PRT), increasing in its incidence as indigenous reserves are exhausted. Coal could well be charged at a negative rate, as new reserves are being found faster than old reserves are depleted. Some of the resulting revenue could be then devoted to a greatly accelerated R & D programme on renewable sources of energy.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN GOODLAND,
Down House,
Pyleigh,
Taunton,
Somerset.
January 30.

Home loans to under privileged

From Mr Norman Griggs

Sir, Mr John Fletcher states (February 2) "that building societies are failing hopelessly to fill the gap left by the restrictions on council mortgages" but he does not mention what those restrictions are. In fact, an allocation of £276m has been made to local authorities in England for lending on non-commercial cases during 1976-77. This sum represents some 40,000 home loans and should itself go a long way towards filling the gap at the bottom end of the market, where building societies are not prepared to risk their investors' funds.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN GRIGGS,
Secretary-General,
The Building Societies Association,
14 Park Street,
London W1Y 4AL.
February 2.

Electric wisdom

From Mr C. L. Blachford

Sir, Accompanying my latest exhorbitant bill from the London Electricity Board it was comforting to find enclosed a leaflet entitled *How to Use Electricity Wisely*. This useful piece of literature suggested, among other things, that I might find it cheaper to "install or use a shower instead of a bath". Perhaps the board would also advocate a return to candlelight and primus stoves, or they might like to consider organizing peat digging excursions for those of us who like the primitive life!

I would like to propose that a more constructive way of dealing with the increased costs would be for the London Electricity Board to examine its own running expenses instead of, as usual, expecting the consumer to solve the problem.

Yours faithfully,
CARYL BLACHFORD,
13 Wendover Court,
Chiltern Street,
London W1.
January 29.

Export fin ECGD ap questioned

From Mr A. L.

Sir, I am writing connexion with a re ence of mine, rem of the problems British.

I was recently in connexion with ceramic equipment of more than $150, in the United States element in this pu the provision of cheap financing u credit guarantee.

I am English an previous experience with the Export Cr tee Department fin therefore telephoned London with a vie ing the British stan completion of nece lities. I was told was no way in wh porter could be in that indeed it is ECGD financing th porter undertakes secret from the in fact that the tran ECGD guaranteed.

I then asked whet be told the prevailin terms for financing port credit guarante informed that this secret. On asking for this it was ex me that if I knew of the ECGD financin company were in run culties I would defi pay the United State since he was insure apart from the sup involved in this prop bears no relationshi ness realities, I was prised by the brusqu helpful attitude of t I can only say that inclination was to or order and try to buy or from some othe which recognizes th portant significance low cost credit in major exports of c ment.

ANDREW L. GRE
Chairman,
Canonsburg Potte
PO Box 110,
Canonsburg,
Pennsylvania 1531
USA.
January 28.

GALLAHER

1975 RESULTS

The Directors of Gallaher Limited announce the following figures, subject to audit, in respect of the year ended 31st December, 1975:

	1975 £'000s	1974 £'000s
Group Sales – note 1		
Tobacco – U.K.	654,260	538,287
– Overseas	88,839	65,583
Engineering	44,084	35,001
Optical	24,059	16,264
Distribution	121,138	68,909
	932,380	724,044
Group Trading Profit before Interest		
Tobacco – U.K.	28,514	28,262
– Overseas	2,964	1,322
Engineering	5,537	5,023
Optical	4,277	2,807
Distribution	2,590	1,930
	43,882	39,344
Interest	7,440	5,876
Group Profit before Taxation	36,442	33,468
Taxation – note 2	18,562	17,085
Group Profit after Taxation	17,880	16,383
Minority Interests	202	261
	17,678	16,122
Extraordinary Items (net of taxation) – note 3	3,420	1,556
Group Profit for the year	21,098	17,678
Preference Dividends	—	219
Group Profit attributable to Ordinary Shareholders	21,098	17,459
Ordinary Dividends	8,718	6,427
Profit retained for the year	12,380	11,032
Earnings per Ordinary Share exclusive of Extraordinary Items	20.8p	19.0p
Depreciation charged in arriving at Group Trading Profit	8,951	7,239

NOTES

1. Sales exclude V.A.T. or its equivalent. The comparison for sales of tobacco products has been largely affected by the very substantial duty increases included in sales from April 1974 and May 1975.
2. Taxation. U.K. Corporation Tax has been provided at a rate of 52%.
3. Extraordinary Items
   The credit of £3,420,000 (net of taxation) comprises:–
   Surplus on the purchase for cancellation of loan stocks £4,336,000
   Net loss on exchange on conversion of foreign assets and liabilities into sterling at year end rates (£916,000)
   £3,420,000
4. The divisional figures for sales and profits shown above for Tobacco-U.K. and Distribution for both 1975 and 1974 have been reclassified; as a result they are not strictly comparable with the figures used in the announcement of the interim results during the year.

GLEESON

Civil Engineering & Building Cont

The Annual General Meeting was held on February 4th a

	Year ended 1974/75 £
Turnover	44.9m
Profit before Taxation	903,000
Taxation	460,000
Profit after Taxation	443,000

The following are extracts from Mr. J. P. Gleeso

A Satisfactory Year. The Group turnover for review amounted to approximately £45m co nearly £36m for the previous year—increase in m of 25%. So the Group has maintained in real te levels of output achieved last year despite the c cession in the building industry. And we have t to show an improved profit figure, namely £90 with £701,000. I trust that shareholders will vie as satisfactory, especially as the recommended mitted distribution for the year is three times c available profit after tax.

Outlook. Although we have a satisfactory o must take a cautious view of our industry's pros ally having regard to the much talked about public expenditure. However, we will make e to maintain our share of the total work load o tion industry.

M.J.Gleeson (Contracto

Interim statement

THE COMMERCIAL BANKING CO OF SYDNEY LIMITED

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTERIM DIVID

The directors of The Commercial Banking Co Limited have declared an interim ordinary dividend of per cent being 6 and a half cents per share (last year per cent being 6 and a half cents per share) for the year ended 31st December, 1975 on the issued ordinary bank. The dividend is payable on 5th March, 1976. Cou received by the company up to 3 p.m. on 18th February registered before entitlements to the dividend are deter end of the reporting period 40,134,757 ordinary fully shares have been issued. Consolidated operating profit half year to $17,12.75 $8,451,000 (half year to $7,12.74 increase of 22.48 per cent.

The improvement on the corresponding period year reflects the very different monetary conditions w the respective half years. The recent monetary measure financing the Commonwealth deficit and reducing the money supply will have wide ranging effects and will affe the profitability of the banking sector particularly for the of this financial y

Please note that dividend warrants will be posted to as soon as possible on or about 5th March, 1976.

By order of the

30th January, 1976

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

ternatives for North Sea financing

...most strongly ...on of the ...on North Sea ...laymore with ...LSMO/SCOT ...hat the bank ...is a good deal ...e public debt ...

...s basis, the 3 ...Thomson will ...g banks on its ...tion compares ...r cent on the ...m that LSMO/ ...on their Oil ...

...vel the differ... ...re marked, as ...experience a ...effect of only ...gainst an esti... ...8 per cent for ...

...difference and ...cts more than ...t Ninian's pro... ...od 2½ years off ...OT unsuccess... ...l the banks last ...pting for the ...a time when ...taking a very ...of the N Sea ...

...r factor is the ...' of the Clay... ...those of Piper. ...Thomson are in ...ion of having ...and relatively ...p field virtually ...happily too for ...s are prepared ...Piper may have ...and above that ...r security when ...tal finance for ...

...nsion's case the ...tional security ...Claymore's on ...00m facility is ...banks shall be ...r cent of TNS's ...petroleum pro... ...a Piper field in ...barrels. True, ...ncides with the ...Naughton esti... ...r's proven re... ...rves, but Occi... ...gested those re... ...e nearer 800m ...

...rough here is ...banks outside of ...so accept this ...tting one North ...eserves behind ...her. Once esta... ...principle we are ...dopted again on ...some of those ...g to be funded. ...ecessarily imply ...ing" on another. ...ves that Clay... ...uce quite suffi... ...to meet all re... ...Claymore's cash ...sed as to 90 per ...g debt until the ...Piper is cleared ...be a healthy 50 ...of residual cash ...from Piper after ...itments to the ...

...s ample scope for ...debt repayments ...lie entire burden ...and Claymore by ...before the quoted ...ganisation exer... ...to acquire TSA's ...fields.

Meyer

...out ...e

...eyer kills three ...ts 1-for-3 rights ...In the first place, ...ch the issue will ...is retrospectively ...expenditure on ...within the past 12 ...

...econd place, it ...he danger that ...borrowings have ...



Mr Paul Tapscott, chairman of Associated Fisheries: looking for a Government fishing policy.

...risen by £10m to £36m since the last year-end in March in direct consequence of these acquisitions (Keizer Venesta cost £4m and had borrowings of another £3.5m; and purchase of a 27 per cent stake in a couple of Belgian companies cost the group a further £1.73m), would run out of financial steam just as timber volume—and working capital requirements—started rising to reflect the industry's cycle. And in the third place it allows the group to do great things for the dividend, which is to be raised from 2.9p to 5.77p gross, more than doubling the yield to 8.2 per cent at the ex-rights price of 70½p.

Such a prospective yield leaves room for further improvement in the shares (up 5p to 76p yesterday), particularly as Meyer is sticking to its interim forecast of an improvement in end-year profits despite an estimated £1m share in the losses of associate companies.

Last year's £7.15m pre-tax representing the bottom of the timber cycle, provided earnings quite sufficient to cover the forecast increased dividend: and the implication is that the group will be able to maintain its record of dividend growth from the enlarged base as the cycle swings up again.

This is more the case as the upswing this time should be particularly sharp, since on the one hand steps are being taken to eliminate the losses in the associates, and on the other the group is carrying stocks which have already increased in value by about 10 per cent (although the volume is so far unchanged); and timber prices, as this week's opening offer of softwood from the Soviet Union demonstrated, are climbing still.

At the moment, Meyer looks to have a couple of years of good profits growth in prospect; and the share price does not discount it adequately yet.

Associated fisheries

Retrenching hard

Associated Fisheries' trawling profits first started to collapse in the second half of 1973-74 so the news that it has at long *last managed to break even on* this side in the latter half of last year is a crumb of comfort in some otherwise depressing results.

Indeed, the recovery in the second half is slightly better than it looks given that £324,000 of the £400,000 pre-tax loss is due to an exceptional depreciation charge arising from the added costs AF has had to bear in completing the building of certain ships itself.

The snag is, though, that without the Government subsidy—worth £1m in the second half—fish prices some 15-20 per cent higher than the previous year are not recovering fast enough to offset the loss of the subsidy given the relentless rise in operating costs.

AF has taken rearguard action in rationalizing operations, contracting the workforce and reducing its fleet by 24 to 120 ships, mostly on the long-distance runs to Iceland, where settlement of the present dispute could mean a 40 per cent drop in Britain's catch there.

This reorganization has also extended to the food processing and transport operations and since the year-end all of its land-based gravel operations have been closed down as well.

Further retrenchment is envisaged in the current year, but the company is well aware that it is fighting a political battle as well, so AF's progress over the next year is very much a matter of conjecture. A nominal 0.25p gross a share dividend has *been paid, but the yield at 27p* is hardly worth speaking about; with break-even as much as can be expected in the first half of the current year the shares are still a gamble.

Final: 1974-75 (1973-74)
Capitalization £4.75m
Sales £77.7m (£77.6m)
Pre-tax loss £2.03m (£5.61m*)
Earnings per share — (11.6p)
Dividend gross 0.25p (5.26p)
*Profit

Town & Commercial

The speculative case

Now that the receivers have been called into Charles Spreckley Industries, worries about the future of its 35 per cent shareholding in Town & Commercial Properties are bound to be an increasing influence on T & C's share price.

Since Spreckley called for the suspension of its shares on Monday T & C's shares have already lost more than 20 per cent of their value, slipping to 12p at the close of the market yesterday. And the thought of 3.5m shares overhanging the market cannot be expected to attract many new supporters for the company.

But the case for T & C as a speculative situation is now little different from the arguments which drew dealers into British Land at 8p.

T. & C does not have the quality of long-term reversionary properties which attracted the speculators to British Land. But fully diluted net assets per share of 193p, even allowing a sizeable discount for the fall in value of properties since the last valuation, gives T & C a certain gambling appeal.

Talk of an imminent capital reconstruction at T & C and the new pressing problem of finding a home for Spreckley's share stake may leave the ordinary shares at least temporarily friendless. And so the 6½ per cent +convertible unsecured loan stock 1983, standing at 24 and yielding 28 per cent could be a more interesting route into the company, although it too must remain *highly speculative given T & C's* continuing revenue loss.

Roger Vielvoye

Oil consumers: the necessity of hanging together

After just over a year in existence the International Energy Agency is about to come of age. The 18 nations who represent the world's largest energy consumers outside the communist block have finally set their sights on a grand strategy for the development of alternative energy resources.

By producing a wide-ranging package that includes the establishment of a $7 floor price for oil imports by agency member countries, a general programme to develop other sources of energy and the setting of higher standards of conservation, the members hope to lose the "confrontational" tag that was placed on them by the oil producers' cartel in 1974.

But, despite all the efforts by the IEA countries to emphasize the importance of its long-term alternative energy development programmes, it is the agency's carefully worked out plans for sharing out the available oil during any new curtailment of supplies that keeps the organization together.

Like its counterpart, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), its *members have wide and often* conflicting interests. Opec holds together because its members realize that a veneer of unity is the only way of maintaining its hold on prices. Likewise, IEA members are prepared to sink their differences over the alternative energy programme proposals in order to preserve the emergency oil-sharing plan.

The latest example of how the "energy poor" among the IEA's members are prepared to compromise in favour of those whose energy prospects are much brighter came in Paris last week.

One of the mainstays of the IEA's long-term strategy is free access by members to each other's energy resources. Agreement on this particular topic was expected at the meeting of the IEA Governing Board in Paris last December, but at the last minute the Canadians, who have plentiful energy resources, balked.

Countries like Denmark and Japan, almost completely dependent on outside sources for their energy, insisted on free access in return for their agreement to the floor price for oil which could have helped the Canadians.

Canada has problems in this direction because the provincial government in Alberta operates an independent energy policy restricting outside investment that is often in conflict with federal guidelines from Ottawa.

The Canadians came back to Paris last week and promised to try to persuade their provincial governments not to contravene overall IEA policies. Even though no formal guarantees were available, the "energy poor" conceded the point rather than jeopardize the future of the organization.

Compromises of this sort by the less well endowed members of the agency are nothing new. The $7 a barrel oil price is designed to protect investment in new and expensive alternative sources of energy from a sudden slump in prices. But agreeing to a minimum price for oil is not directly in the interest of countries where the possibility of alternative energy resources overtaking reliance *on imported oil is only a dream* of the future.



M Etienne Davignon, chairman of the International Energy Agency: a grand strategy.

Nevertheless, Japan and Italy, which fall into this category, agreed to a $7 floor price rather than the $3 minimum level they would have liked. Again, the desire not to rock the IEA structure is evident.

All 18 members of the IEA must approve this grand strategy and alter their internal legislation where it conflicts with the objectives of the agency. But, as has been proved in the past, it is often difficult for delegates to get approval from their own Parliaments for IEA policies.

Certain parts of the programme are politically non-controversial. Everyone is aware that energy resources, particularly oil, are finite and that alternatives must be developed. Contracts for developing new ways of burning coal more efficiently have been awarded. Almost every new source of power, as well as the refinement of existing energy sources, is on the agency's list for long-term development.

Conservation in all the industrial countries *is another sub*ject where there is general agreement, but where action has been limited. This is an area where Britain's efforts to save power have been commended as by far the most progressive among the 18 members.

The IEA tends to make few references to its arrangements for oil-sharing these days, although the detailed plans are well refined and ready to go into operation. There is still some hesitancy over whether the agency should test its procedures by running a full-scale simulation of some future incident where supplies from one of the main sources of oil are drastically curtailed.

Opposition to the oil-sharing plans from members of Opec has subsided, but there are fears that a demonstration of the IEA's real effectiveness could undermine this conciliatory approach, particularly while the consumer-producer dialogue, in the form of the international conference on economic cooperation, is still in the balance.

While the *good intentions of* the IEA in the field of developing new ways of producing power are not disputed, the difficulty and cost of implementing these ideas are no longer underestimated by its members. With this in mind it is not difficult to see why the large consumers of oil cling so doggedly to their only means of survival in the case of a new oil emergency.

Symptoms of withdrawal

Peter Jay
Economics Editor

No reflation, the expectation of progressively lower norms for pay increases in successive periods and virtually no real growth beyond 1976 in public spending (to be controlled by cash limits as well as by volume ceilings) indeed provide the foundations of an economic strategy. The Chancellor has propounded them in last week's unemployment debate. The Prime Minister has endorsed them this week at the Overseas Bankers Association dinner. Neither Mr Michael Foot, nor Mr Tony Benn, nor anyone else has resigned.

However sceptical one may remain—and experience teaches us to be very sceptical—that this policy can be maintained right through 1976 and 1977, it is only fair to acknowledge that at least for the moment, and for once, government policy is in tune with the needs of the situation and that a year ago this would have seemed too good to be true. All of which provides a breathing space—at least until the political pressures build up again for the economy's next inflationary "fix"—to take note of recent developments in the intellectual climate. In their different ways these bear upon the prospects for a sustained strategy of withdrawal from dependency on the drug of "full employment" demand management.

● *Cyclical Fluctuations in the United Kingdom Economy* (National Economic Development Office, £1).

This useful Discussion Paper surveys (and graphs) selected aggregate and sectoral data of the United Kingdom's postwar record and concludes:

"... it (demand management) clearly has not succeeded in stabilizing the economy completely ... but the fact that fluctuations have been less in the postwar period than in earlier periods suggests that, unless there has been some reduction in the inherent tendency of the economy to fluctuate, the overall impact of the *increased size of the govern*ment sector and of the government's commitment to maintaining a stable and high level of employment must have been to reduce fluctuations at the aggregate level."

The pleasure this conclusion will give to Treasury forecasters and policy-makers will be somewhat diminished by NEDO's other conclusion, namely that "stop-go" fluctuations do not do any noticeable harm to growth anyway.

Three brief comments are needed. First, government policies may have been even more destabilizing in the inter-war period (eg, the wrong gold price in 1925, and monetary contraction, especially in the United States, in 1930-31). Secondly, the destabilization which matters is not the aggravation of the fluctuations in demand, but the acceptance and consequences of accelerating inflation as the price of seeking (unsuccessfully) to maintain an unrealistic employment target. Thirdly, let us by all means look for the springs of growth not in macro-economic *dei ex machinis*, but in the micro-economics of entrepreneurial opportunity and incentive.

● *Financial Performance and Inflation* (National Economic Development Office, £1.25).

This report, to be published tomorrow, is highly germane to the last point since it will map in detail the collapse of profitability which has accompanied the horrifying decline in British manufacturing industry in recent years.

● *Catch '76* (The Institute of Economic Affairs, £1.50).

This anthology, though a less weighty successor to last year's influential *Crisis '75*, is distinguished by an outstandingly lapidary contribution from John Flemming, the Oxford economist and consultant at the Bank of England.

It estimates that real wages have run a good two years ahead of productivity growth and that, with real wages 6 per cent above their market-clearing level, profits are about 25 per cent too low, a condition which is further aggravated by the interaction of inflation and the company tax system. To restore employment and to encourage expansion Flemming proposes restraint of real wages, a percentage pay norm that will not discriminate against the employment of the less skilled in the way that the flat £6 "limit" does, a more flexible price code ("if any"), *a cut in flat rate national in*surance contributions, fiscal aid to companies that have no corporation tax liabilities against which to set interest charges and balancing general tax increases or expenditure cuts.

The Chancellor's present approach now seems nearer to this realism about how to get high employment than that of any of his postwar predecessors.

[●*The Significance of Public Expenditure Plans*, by Quentin Outram (Centre for Studies in Social Policy)]

This working paper poses and subjects to extensive quantitative examination the question "how seriously should the annual series of five-year plans for public expenditure be taken".

The paper is right to say that the Public Expenditure Survey Committee (PESC) system is fundamentally sound as a framework for deciding and controlling the magnitude of and priorities between government spending programmes. But it is wrong to suggest (as the accompanying press release does) that these findings "to some extent contradict the arguments of Mr Wynne Godley" before the House of Commons Expenditure Committee. What is needed is PESC reinforced by the changes outlined in *The Times* leader of December 19 last.

As the centre itself makes clear, Outram's figuring excludes debt interest and the "relative price effect". Mr Godley's results depended importantly on including *these*; and they were particularly important in 1974-75 which was the year he chose. But he was still right to suggest that an administrative system which, as well as omitting to announce important policy changes, fails to make compensating adjustments in the volume of public spending when unexpected movements in these magnitudes threaten to inflate the real as well as the money cost of government programmes is badly managed, not just unlucky.

● *International Monetary Fund Staff Papers, November, 1975—The 1967 Devaluation of the Pound Sterling*, by Jacques R. *Artus*.

This article's conclusion "differs sharply from that reached in recent investigations by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research (*NIESR*, 1972) and the London Business School (LBS, by Ball, Burns and Miller, 1972)—it is estimated that positive benefits from the devaluation occurred relatively rapidly and were large in their magnitude".

These findings encourage confidence in the Chancellor's strategy of allowing the downward floating pound to play its part in achieving and preserving a market-clearing price to the world for British labour.

● *Time to Move On—An Opening to the Future for British Politics*, by David Howell, MP (CPC, 50p).

This tract signals the recruitment of a vigorous practising politician to the ranks of those who feel uncomfortable in the presently arranged political spectrum, posing as it does a sterile choice between favouring capital and favouring labour.

Precisely in line with the thinking in my own Wincott lecture (IEA) it acknowledges the bankruptcy of our present political economy and calls, in the name of a revolution of individuals against remote and unresponsive institutions in both the public and the private sector, for a combination of "small" government with democracy in the workplace. I hope Mr Howell will come to acknowledge that this position can be taken from any point in the old political spectrum and not try to confine support to "new Tories".

If, of course, Mr Healey is able to persevere with his no-inflation strategy to the end of 1977 and indeed beyond, then our present political economy may succeed in staggering on some years longer than either Mr Howell or I at present expect. But, if not, because for example Mr Flemming's programme cannot be sustained politically, then it will not be many years before the new politics of consumer democracy and worker democracy will come into its own.

For, it will be seen to offer the only workable and democratic alternative to the crisis-ridden wreckage of a mixed economy that relies more and more on arbitrary and oppressive ordinances emanating from unauthorized cabals, accountable to none, of the de facto industrial estates of the realm, both governmental and private, as represented at national level. The only *other alternatives will* be anarchy and state absolutism.

Business Diary: Banks ahoy! • Room for improvement

...nce of the inter... ...s in the North Sea ...prospect has come ...z way, according to ..., chief executive of ...ional Energy Bank ...her with Republic ...nk of Dallas, is ...the $315m deals ...last night.

...a Texan seconded ...Republic National ...allas, and Patrick ...South African who ...g and special opera... ...er of the IEB, were ...thors of this financ... ...e which marks the ...e big banks to the ...

...told Business Diary ...that "this Labour ...t frightened the day... ...of the banks" with ...for participation and ...Revenue Tax. Both ...e turned out to be ...sory.

..., the Government ...l solve the problem ...le to North Sea oil ...ll these scores, the ...and European banks ...the United Kingdom ...including Midland ...debut as a direct len... ...now much happier ...North Sea.

...good news for every... ...n that there were ...oubts last year about ...he banks would be ...to come up with the ...r getting the North ...ream.

...t that BP is due to ...ayments of its large ...s on the Forties field ...is also encouraging ...banks, according to ...That will provide ...over finance so that ...s can increase their ...



Ed Monteith yesterday.

...North Sea lending without increasing their total exposure.

The IEB is also delighted that it has been able to "collateralize" the risks on Claymore, added Connolly. This bit of jargon that originated in the American land-based oil fields means putting one field's oil resources up as security against lending on another field. This way both the bankers and the oil men can sleep easier in their beds at night.

Hotel guide

The English Tourist Board's second register of hotels and guest houses confirms the worst fears of Sir Mark Henig, the ETB chairman, about the effectiveness of a purely voluntary scheme.

The latest 12-volume guide contains 7,924 entries, only 600-odd up on last year's total of 7,300 and still a mere fifth of the holiday accommodation thought to exist. Furthermore, the names who have taken the trouble to register are entirely predictable.

Before the scheme started last year Sir Mark had campaigned for the invocation of powers under the 1969 Development of Tourism Act to make registration compulsory. After long discussions with the Department of Trade, he was obliged to try voluntary hotel registration for three years.

Little hopeful of improvement next year, Sir Mark is equally sceptical about the proposals for a voluntary code to display hotel room prices now wending their way between the British Hotels, Restaurants and Caterers Association and the Department of Trade. Now that John Methven, Director-General of Fair Trading, is going to the CBI, Sir Mark could be forgiven for feeling that there is now even less chance of making the voluntary system work.

Festive mood

A sign of confidence that there's an upturn coming, or a piece of irrelevant self-indulgence? Both are reactions in the advertising industry to the proposal to revive a British television advertising awards festival.

Tony Solomon, a director of Dorland Advertising, and Doug Kentish, managing director of Illustra Films, belong to the bullish camp, and whatever the merits of their proposal they're going about it in a pretty serious way.

Solomon, who has more than 40 years in the business behind him, is chairing a joint committee of television and film interests who are to promote a festival this year through a new holding company, the London Advertising Commercial Festival.

The company will apportion the cost of the project between agencies and the film and videotape production and service companies. There has been a festival of some sort ever since commercial television went on the air in the mid-*fifties, until last year, when the* industry was too miserable to try.

Ernie Pearl, a founder of Pearl & Dean, already has something of the sort in the Screen Advertising World Association, which deals in both cinema and television and alternates its screenings each year between Cannes and Venice.

What Solomon and Kentish are after, however, *is a London*-based event, which will dispense with many of the frills of previous attempts. This will go some way to meet the objections of those in the industry who think this isn't the time or the place for such jollities.

Kentish, for instance, says that London has a position to maintain in the industry and ads are *good export earners*. This year, those that get on to the short-lists will be publicly shown at the cinema of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts in Piccadilly.

Window pains

It seems only yesterday that publishers of paperback reprints of the likes of Balzac and Zola began to adorn the covers with unclothed ladies of uncertain relevance to the text within.

Something similar now seems to be happening in realms as august as those of Sweet & Maxwell, the legal and professional division of Associated *Book Publishers*.

Sweet & Maxwell today publish Robert Willott's £7 paperback *Current Accounting Law & Practice*, but seem to have been thrown into a dither by the publication last week of the Department of Trade report on London & County and its animadversions on the "window-dressing" of the company's accounts.

The publishers have rushed out a circular dubbing Willott's perfectly worthy compendium as a "new handbook for anyone else who may be contemplating getting into the act".

Willott's tome, Sweet & Maxwell declare, could just as well have been entitled "How to window-dress your balance-sheet without breaking the law, offending the Stock Exchange or distressing the Institute of Chartered Accountants".

Whether this is the sort of thing that will distress Sir Ronald Leach, a former president of the institute and the author of the book's foreword, is not clear.

What does seem to be clear, however, is that Willott—a former editor of *Accountancy Age* described by Sir Ronald as a "constructive critic"—has no time for skivvery within or without the law.

"Tell the shareholders everything. Tell policyholders everything. Tell depositors everything", he writes.

Companies in insurance, banking, deposit-taking and banking, he continues, are unjustifiably permitted to conceal from shareholders financial information at a time when many investors and policyholders have suffered through placing too much confidence in companies thus protected.



FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Buyers at last respond to CBI survey

Tuesday's encouraging CBI industrial survey brought a sharp response, albeit belated, from leading equities on the London stock market yesterday.

After a couple of days of reaction, the market was ready to go ahead and the appearance of buyers was enough to produce a firm start. Apart from a lull at lunchtime prices were held for the rest of the day, even though dealers reported a slackening of interest as the session progressed.

Many now feel that the gilt-edged market may have run its course and that the "loose" money there could soon find its way to the equity pitches. Were this to happen the effect would be startling, though in the short run, today's North Sea funding holds the key to the market's course.

With prices closing at or about their best levels, the *FT* Index closed 4.9 better, at 414.4, a gain of more than a full point on the 3 pm calculation.

Unilever's final-quarter figures, due at the end of the month, could outshine the record set up in the third quarter. The credit would probably go to a strong contribution from the United Africa Company, in raw materials. Now seen by some as a more important market leader than ICI, Unilever rose 10p to 460p, the best "blue chip" showing of the day.

Prices fluctuated quite widely in the gilt-edged market. Short-dated stocks started an ¼ point above overnight levels and closed with net gains of a ¼ point or more, having twice recovered from minor reverses.

Dealers reported a good turnover, with strong two-way business. There was again a substantial amount of profit-taking, but, equally, the relatively low level of prices continued to attract sizable buying interest.

The long-dated stocks experienced a similarly volatile business, easing an ¼ point initially. By the close of business in the House, prices in this sector were standing at overnight levels, but in after-hours trading they rose, to show net gains of an ¼ point.

The possibility of a further cut in the Minimum Lending Rate on Friday and the absence of any "tap" stocks were again helping to underpin the market, dealers said.

Dealers thought there was a possibility that new "tap" stocks might be introduced on Friday, but it was being more generally assumed that the authorities might give the market still more time to digest the earlier heavy sales of new Government stocks.

British American Tobacco continued to draw strength from this week's results and firmed another 9p to 375p on the leaders pitch.

ICI, where final-quarter figures are due next week, was another good spot, gaining 6p to 386p, while more typical were **Courtaulds**, up 3p to 167p and **Fisons**, better by 2p to 412p.

A rights issue and profit forecast by **ML Meyer**, 5p firmer to 76p, brought some interest to related issues like **Phoenix Timber** 6p to 66p and **Parker Timber** 3p to 92p. Even **International Timber** managed to hold on to 115p after initial weakness following the denial of bid rumours.

The engineering sector provided a number of features with the big names like **Hawker Siddeley** 4p to 410p and **GKN** 5p to 311p scoring solid advances. **Dowty** continued to reflect profits and put on 2p to 164p while **F. Pratt** stayed unchanged at 70p after reporting year's results.

Warwick Engineering gained 4p to 25p after the offer from **Gidney Industrial** and **Acrow "A"** went up another 4p to 125p.

The big Korean order had **Reyrolle Parsons** edging up 3p to 113p. News of a slightly bigger stake by Eurocanadian sent **Furness Withy** a penny better to 217p and **Albright & Wilson** were also point firmer, at 89p after a statement on German marketing.

The banks, ahead of the results season, were a rather nervous market with **National Westminster** losing 6p to 272p and faring worst. **Barclays** 2p easier at 344p and **Lloyds** unchanged at 273p. **Midland** managed to put on a couple of pence to 315p.

In contrast, discount houses were in good form, the best being **Union Discount** 7p to 367p, **Gillett** 5p to 225p and **Cater Ryder** 5p to 290p.

Quiet, but firm was the picture in properties where **British Land** up 3½p to 39½p, responded to press mention. Insurances hugged close to overnight levels.

Motor industry shares continued to be favoured with **Smiths Industries** going ahead 5p to 151p and **Lucas** 3p to 214p. Elsewhere the renewed prospect of good things to come had **Gripperrods** firm at 78p.

There was a better day for oil shares. **BP** rose 2p to 583p, **Shell** 4p to 392p and **Burmah** 3p to 50p. But golds reacted to lower transatlantic advices and the metal price to lose up to 75p.

In mines, **Pancontinental** again featured, this time putting on £2.25 to £18.50 on uranium prospects.

The **Associated Fisheries** return left the shares unmoved at 27p, **Vibroplant** was much the market's liking and gained 11p to 122p, while **IDC** put on 3p to 108p.

Others to report were **Hillards**, up 3p to 93p, and **Mining Supplies** 3p firmer to 74p.

In after-hours trading, the general tone stayed strong with most sections adding a penny or two. **Vibroplant** made further headway and trading news lifted **Benjamin Priest**. Oil shares improved, golds lost another 5p to 25p, but gilts were largely unchanged from levels at the official close.

The talk is that London Weekend Television plans an introduction or placing at the end of the year. The shares, now dealt in under Rule 163(2) trade at about £4 apiece, a 50p rise on the week. There are 15,000 voting and 2m non-voting shares. The group is strong in assets and cash-rich as well. LWT will not comment.

Equity turnover on February 3 was £60.45m (18,298 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were ICI, Barclays Bank, British American Tobacco, ML Meyer, Shell, Burmah, Unilever, International Timber, GKN, Hawker Siddeley, Consolidated Gold Fields, Ocean Transport new, Granada "A" and EMI.

Latest dividends

Company (and par values)	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev Year
Eng & New York Fin	1.1	0.95	7/4	1.9	1.7
Hillards (10p) Int	1	0.84	19/3	3.96*	2.70
IDC (20p) Fin	5.62	5.27	—	7.6	7.12
McKay Secs (20p) Int	0.7	0.7	23/3	—	1.4
Mining Supplies (10p) Int	Nil	Nil	—	—	0.7
Palabora Mining Fin	12.5§	30§	16/3	50§	120§
F. Pratt Eng (25p) Fin	2.61	2.37	6/4	3.92	3.67
Pentland Inv Fin	1.47	1.77	—	2.85	2.65
Benjamin Priest (25p) Int	0.98	0.94	2/4	—	3.60
Stoddard Hldgs (25p) Int	0.93	0.87	7/4	—	2.12
Vibroplant (25p) Int	3.57	3.52	8/3	—	8.19

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54. * Forecast. § Cents a share.

Hillards chooses a placing as profits burgeon by 41pc

By Terry Byland

A share placing, rather than a rights issue, is the means by which Hillards, the Yorkshire supermarket group which went public just over three years ago, has chosen to raise £510,000.

The move follows advice from Samuel Montagu, the merchant banker to Hillards, that the capital base should be enlarged. It accompanies news that pre-tax profits jumped from £356,000 to £502,000 in the six months to November 8.

The shares are to be placed at 86p, against 93p in the market. The main reason for a placing seems to have been that the "advice" that a rights issue would have required an appreciably lower price, and the indication that directors and their family trusts, which hold 50 per cent of the equity, would not take up such rights. The new shares are being placed, in conjunction with institutional investors.

The placed shares will not rank for the interim dividend of 1.54p declared but they will take the proposed final of 4.56p, on the capital increased by the placing. This would lift the total for the year to May 1 this year to 9.39p, an increase of 49 per cent.

Turnover for the half year rose from £15.5m to £26.7m; and the chairman has previously forecast sales of about £50m for the full year. In 1974-75, profits of £641,000 before tax were reported on sales of £35.6m. Since the group went public, profits before tax have risen by about 150 per cent.

The acquisition and opening of new stores has played a key role in Hillards' expansion. In December last, the group brought four of the former Brierley supermarkets stores from the Official Receiver, and shareholders were told at the annual meeting of the opening of six newly built stores.

Since then, the chairman reports, the group has opened its first freezer centre at Pontefract and a non-food store at Ossett, near Wakefield. This pushed up borrowings and brought the bankers' suggestion for the present share placing.

A sound advance from F Pratt and orders are still healthy

F. Pratt Engineering Corporation did well in the six months to April 30 and then went on to a new peak in the year to October 31. The order book has shortened but it remains "reasonably healthy" and the group is poised, says the board, to benefit from any major economic recovery in the present year.

Pre-tax profits advanced 27 per cent to £1.35m on a turnover 30 per cent better at £14.95m. Available profits moved from £637,000 to £718,000, and the year's payout rises from 5.48p gross to 6.03p.

At the onset of the year, order books were substantially ahead of the same period (some 28 per cent). Its five operating divisions comprise among other things hydraulics, forging, engineering, and construction.

Ben Priest down 22pc but payout is raised

Having passed the £1m mark for the first time last year, Benjamin Priest (Holdings) (fasteners, mechanical handling and storage equipment), then suffered a "significant drop" in business. Pre-tax profits fell 22.3 per cent to £344,000 in the six months to September 26, though sales rose from £4.16m to £4.17m. The dividend rises from 1.40p to 1.50p gross. The decision reflects the board's unchanged confidence in the group's long-term prospects.

Union Discount

Mr A. J. O. Ritchie, chairman of Union Discount, said in his statement in the 1975 annual report: "Thirteen changes in Minimum Lending Rate occurred during the year, reflecting once again the continuing unsettled and unstable conditions in which the discount market operated throughout 1975. In these circumstances the company has once again had a successful year's trading.

"Many problems still confront the United Kingdom economy in 1976, but with the possibility of some further fall in interest rates taking place during the early months of the year, the company has a portfolio of assets whose composition and life is such that the uncertainties lying ahead can be faced without undue risk."

Comfort in 'Johnnies'

Pre-tax profits at Johannesburg Consolidated Investment fell a mere seven per cent to R18.8m in the six months to the end of December. Near doubled trading profits almost offset the effects of the decline in investment income—mainly gold and platinum—from R15m to R11.8m and an increase in exploration interest and depreciation charges.

The company reports that the Rand devaluation added R6.23m to its foreign loans. Profits at the attributable level fell 20 per cent to R13.1m. The company says the full year decline in profits before write-offs and currency loss provisions should not be as pronounced as in the first six months.

Vibroplant again rises slightly

The slackening in growth at plant-hire group Vibroplant in last year's second-half year (to 1 per cent) gave way to something a bit better in the six months to September 30.

After making a record £1.72m for the year to March 31 last, pre-tax profits for the latest half were 7 per cent better at £913,000. Turnover rose from £2.69m to £2.82m. Net profits were £438,000 against £411,000, the interim dividend goes up from 5.25p gross to 5.5p.

Lean times in building and construction continued, making turnover gains difficult. Cost increases continued to bite into margins. The group operates mainly in Scotland and the North of England. It concentrates chiefly on smaller equipment like rollers and compressors, and has an unblemished profit record since coming to the market in April 1973, and indeed for 10 years before that.

Mining Supplies gives 2-for-1

A bumper year is on the way for Mining Supplies. On sales up from £3.8m to £5.9m, pre-tax profits jumped 92 per cent to £685,000 in the six months to October 25. There is again no interim dividend, but shareholders are to receive a two-for-one scrip issue.

The board says that factory and plant extension is well under way. Both will be in production this year. The cost is about £700,000, and this will be financed from the company's own resources. There has been no need to take up the 5-year loan mentioned in the last annual report, although the facility is still available.

North British Steel

North British Steel, with record profits under its belt for the year to September 27, is to increase borrowing powers. In his review, Mr G. M. Menzies, chairman, says the limit will be raised from £1.3m to £4.6m, twice the size of the company's share capital and reserves. He notes that demand for heavier and lighter castings is low. He adds that first quarter results are "reasonable", but he makes no forecast.

Small gain at Sanyo

A modest improvement is reported by Sanyo Electric for the year to November 30. Net earnings rose a bit from 5,750m yen to 5,780m yen, but sales fell from 359,000m yen to 350,000. Mr Kaoru Ive, president, said net profits in the current year are expected to beat 6,000m yen, with gross sales rising above the 400,000m mark. He said the company plans to sell 1·2 million colour television sets this year, compared with 940,000 last year. To cope with the higher demand Sanyo will expand its Suminodo colour television plant in Osaka.

Eurocanadian again nibbling at Furness

A new twist in the story of Eurocanadian Shipholdings and Furness Withy was disclosed yesterday. Eurocanadian said that it had bought a further 200,000 shares in Furness, lifting its total interest to 21 per cent of the equity.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission opened an investigation into Eurocanadian's interest in Furness last November. The Canadian shipping group was then understood to hold 28.5 per cent of the Furness equity. It is due to report by May 28 this year. But in December, Eurocanadian announced that it held only 20.6 per cent of the equity, having decided not to buy a further stake, from Hambros. Eurocanadian never actually completed the purchase from Hambros.

Misery at Palabora

The slide in copper explains why Palabora had a 15 per cent sales increase, but a fall in operating profits of 59 per cent from R79.5m to R32.7m in the year to last December. The final dividend has again been cut, this time from 30 cents to 12½ cents to give a total of 50 cents compared with 120 cents a share in 1974.

Palabora, a large open-pit operation in which Rio Tinto-Zinc has a 39 per cent stake, slowed down the decline in the second half. Even so it ended the year as a net payer of interest.

Stoddard on rebound

In 1974-75, the pre-tax profits of Stoddard Holdings, the carpet group, fell from a record £1.38m to £287,000 but recovery is now going ahead. Profits for the six months to November 30 jumped 93 per cent to £403,000 on sales up from £6.64m to £8.25m. Earnings a share went ahead from 2.5p to 4.75p. Shareholders are to get a payment of 1.43p, against 1.29p.

DORMAN SMITH GROUP

Two subsidiaries, Dorman Smith Controlgear and Dorman Smith Britmac will trade under the second name from April 1.

Chairman wants to buy Warwick

Two-and-a-half years aft returning to the market with placing of 45p a share, Warwi Engineering Investments n gets a £1.5m takeover bid fr a company owned by its cha man, Mr Norman Gidney. T company is Gidney Industr Investments, controlled by Gidney and his wife. The ter are 26p cash, or 26p nomir of 10 per cent unsecured lo stock 1995/99 of GII for ea Warwick ordinary share.

There are two condition First, that the bid is not r ferred to the Monopolies a Mergers Commission; a second, that acceptances of n less than 90 per cent of Wa wick's equity are received, any response over 50 per ce which GII may decide. Minori shareholders have been advis by Keyser Ullmann to acce the cash alternative.

The company's directors w accept the offer for 4.4 millio shares (74.7 per cent) und their control. Along with th offer document come Warwick interim results for the s months to September 30. Pr tax profits were almost halve to £209,000 and turnover wa down from £8.9m to £8.2m. Th net profit fell from £209,000 t £95,000 and there is no payou against 3.13p gross.

Stock Exchange: an updated code

The Stock Exchange is send ing out 15,000 copies of a updated dealing code, firs issued 10 years ago. It will g to the financial institutions a well as to members and their clerks.

For about a year two senior members have acted as arbiters in any dealing problem. The aim was to avoid reference to the SE Council, now used only as a last resort.

The main changes in the code concern the rules relating to country (provincial) brokers, the procedure for "put-throughs"—the creation of matching business—and the registration of jobbers. They are now required to specify the securities in which they deal. The idea of this is to maintain at least two jobbers for every quoted share.

Overseas

Coal boosts earnings of Continental Oil

New York, Feb 3.—Continental Oil made record earnings last year. On revenues up from $7,340m to $7,670m (£3,835m), net profit rose from $307.2m to $330.9m (£165m). Earnings a share went up from $6.06 to $6.50.

In the fourth quarter, ne profits rose from $45.8m t $78m, on revenues up fro $2.030m to $2.140m. Earnings share expanded from 90 cen to $1.53. The board attribute the year's record earnings prin arily to coal operations whic contributed $142m to incom ($43.8m). This improvement coal earnings reflected bett margins, higher gains on pro erty sales, liquidation of s coal production payment at the end of the third quarter and two-million ton increase in coa output. Earnings from worl wide petroleum operations ro from $266m to $176.8m.—Reuter.

PHILLIPS PETROLEUM

Year's earnings per share, $4.9 ($5.66). Net income, $342.6 ($429.7m). Revenues, $5,300 ($5,100m). (1974 net includes los of $9.3m from write-down of fibre plant in Puerto Rico.)—Reute

Montagu leaves Allied Inv

Samuel Montagu has resigned as merchant bankers to Allied Investments, the private health group, and placed its 1.49m shares with institutions. Mr R. M. Danzic, a Montagu director, has also resigned from the Allied board.

Last night Mr Michael Rosenberg, an Allied director, said the company's original relationship with its merchant bankers had changed first with Montagu becoming wholly owned by the Midland Bank and secondly with the considerable personnel changes that took place at the bank.

Mr Rosenberg, in fact, originally joined Allied as a non-executive director in 1973 while an executive director Montagu. In mid-1974 he r signed from Montagu become a full-time Allied exec tive.

Last November, Montag held 11.2 per cent of the co pany's equity, while Commerci Union and the Orion Bank he held 17.3 per cent of the equit Mr Rosenberg said Montag had decided to sell its holdin because it appeared it was no the bank's policy not to ta large stakes in companies wh it also saw its future wi larger companies.

Last December, Allie reported a 70 per cent increa in pre-tax profits to £170,0 for the half-year to the end October.

Business appointments

BA ex-chief joins MEPC

Sir David Nicolson has joined the board of MEPC. He is chairman of Rothmans International and a former chairman of British Airways.

Mr J. R. Tusting has been appointed chairman of the Footwear, Leather and Fur Skin Industry Training Board. He succeeds Mr J. C. W. Stead.

Sir Arnold Hall, chairman and managing director of Hawker Siddeley Group, and Mr F. H. Wood, a director of Hawker Siddeley Group, have joined the board of Oman Corporation, Minneapolis.

Mr Anthony Grant, MP, has become chairman of the Abel Alarm Co.

Four directors of Babcock & Wilcox have gone on to the board of American Chain and Cable. They are Mr J. L. King, chairman of Babcock and Wilcox; Mr T. Carlile, managing director; Mr D. Parvin, deputy managing director, and Mr B. J. Knightly, finance director.

Mr Nigel Hall-Palmer has been made managing director of Satra Motors. He succeeds Mr Lewin Bean, who becomes chairman.

Mr William O'Grady has become director of finance and planning at Coventry Climax Engines.

Mr B. D. G. Ogle, ICI chief accountant, has been appointed deputy treasurer from March 1 in succession to Mr A. W. Clements. Mr D. E. Watts, an assistant treasurer, is named chief accountant.

Mr D. A. McCausland, general manager, Hull, and Mr P. Mussellwhite, general manager, East Anglia, have been appointed directors of Pauls & Whites Foods.

Mr W. M. Huyton, managing director of Dowty Fuel Systems, has additionally been appointed a director of Imsworth Metals.

Mr A. E. Smith has become a non-executive director of Fairfax Jersey Group.

Mr S. Davison has joined the board of Bain Dawes (Reinsurance Brokers).

Mr A. William Graves is to retire on March 31 as a director of C. & J. Clark and as deputy managing director of Clarks.

Mr Robert F. Weltzien has been elected president of Timex Corporation.

Mr Alan Bishop has been named sales director of Design Built.

Mr Harry Weddell, general manager of the Nuclear Enterprises Laboratories, has become a director.

Mr Roger Pinnington has been made managing director of Cam Gears. He succeeds Mr Charles Miller.

Mr J. K. O'Donnell has resigned from the board of Addo International.

Mr J. Fawdry joins the board of Arthur Lee and Sons.

Mr Frank Monkman is to be deputy chairman of Media Buying Services. Mr Alan James joins the board.

Mr Henry Creffield has been appointed manufacturing director of Reliant Motor.

Mr Norman Roberts is now a director of Tullett & Riley (Foreign Exchange).

Mr Herbert Walden, director and joint general manager of Heart of England Building Society, has been appointed a member of the National House Building Council.

Mr Ron Goldsmith becomes managing director of Wingard.

Mr G. W. Booth has been appointed finance director of Energy Services and Electronics.

Mr E. Dyer has joined the board of Westbrick Products.

Mr J. Clarke has been made a director of United Glass.

Mr Peter Ruck has been appointed to the board of Industrial Communications.

Mr Leslie Burrage has become director of marketing for Bristol-Myers recently formed beauty appliances division.

Mrs Catherine Harrison has become a divisional director of Thomas Black.

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

of

Ente Nazionale per l'Energia Elettrica-ENEL

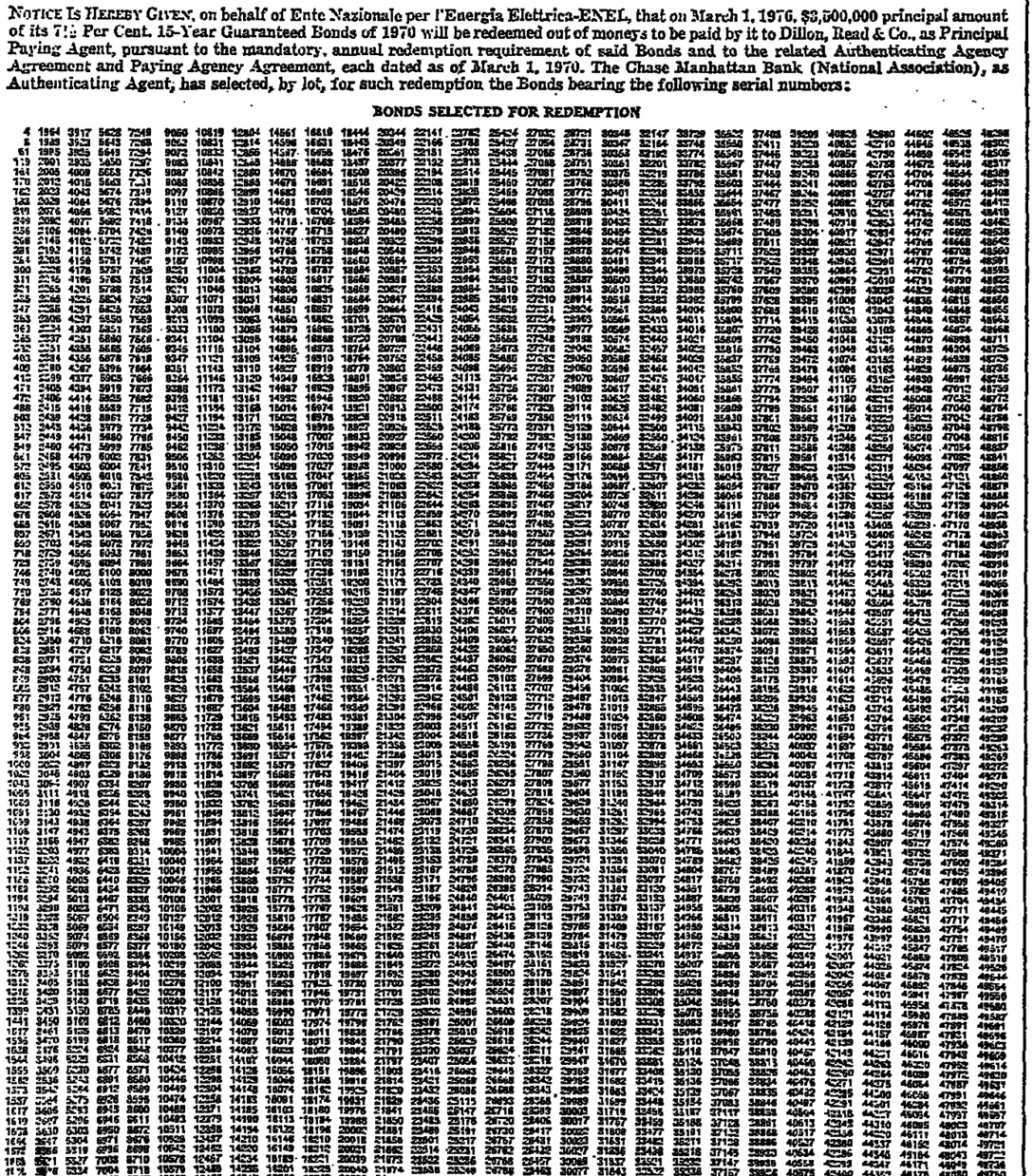
(Italian National Electric Energy Agency)

7½ Per Cent. 15-Year Guaranteed Bonds of 1970

Due March 1, 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, on behalf of Ente Nazionale per l'Energia Elettrica-ENEL, that on March 1, 1976, $3,500,000 principal amount of its 7½ Per Cent. 15-Year Guaranteed Bonds of 1970 will be redeemed out of moneys to be paid by it to Dillon, Read & Co., as Principal Paying Agent, pursuant to the mandatory annual redemption requirement of said Bonds and to the related Authenticating Agency Agreement and Paying Agency Agreement, each dated as of March 1, 1970. The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), as Authenticating Agent, has selected, by lot, for such redemption the Bonds bearing the following serial numbers:

BONDS SELECTED FOR REDEMPTION



Bonds so selected for redemption will become and be due and payable in United States dollars on March 1, 1976, at the office of Dillon, Read & Co., 48 Wall Street, New York, New York 10005, at one hundred per cent (100%) of the principal amount thereof with interest accrued thereon to the redemption date. Bonds should be presented for redemption together with all appurtenant coupons maturing subsequent to the redemption date. If moneys for the redemption of all the Bonds to be redeemed are available at the office of Dillon, Read & Co. on the redemption date, interest thereon will cease to accrue from and after such date.

At the option of the respective holders of bearer Bonds selected for redemption, the principal amount thereof and interest thereon may be collected upon presentation at the offices of the following Co-Paying Agents: in Luxembourg-Ville, Grand Duché of Luxembourg at the principal office of Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas pour le Grand Duché de Luxembourg S.A., or in Milan, Italy at the principal branch of Banca Commerciale Italiana S.p.A., or in London, United Kingdom at the principal office of S.G. Warburg & Co. Limited, or in Frankfurt, a/M, Federal Republic of Germany at the principal office of Deutsche Bank A.G. Additionally, insurance companies doing business in the Republic of Italy may present for redemption Bonds registered as to principal, which they own, at the principal branch of the Co-Paying Agent in Milan, Italy.

DILLON, READ & CO.
Principal Paying Agent

Dated: January 29, 1976

VIBROPLANT HOLDINGS LIMITED

Business: Plant Hire Specialists

INTERIM STATEMENT

HALF YEAR TO 30th SEPTEMBER

	1975 £	1974 £
Group Turnover	2,825,959	2,692,637
Unaudited Profit before Taxation	913,587	856,073
Corporation Tax 52%	475,066	445,158
Group Profit after Tax	438,521	410,915
Cost of Dividend (after waivers) Net	107,250	105,525

The Directors have declared an Interim Dividend of 3·575p per share which together with the Associated Tax Credit is equivalent to 5·5p per share (1974 5·25p per share). The Dividend is payable to those shareholders on the Register at the 20th February, 1976 and will be paid on the 8th March, 1976.

Registered Office – Prospect Road, Starbeck, Harrogate, North Yorkshire.

AL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

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Commodities

COPPER: Cash wire bars firmed by £4 and three months advanced by a similar sum.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £589-89.60 a metric ton; three months, £607.50-608. Sales, 2,500 tons. Cash cathodes, £578.50-79.50; three months, £596.50-97.00. Sales, 550 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £588-88.50; three months, £606.50-607. Settlement, £588.50. Sales, 9,535 tons (mainly carries). Cash cathodes, £577-78; three months, £595-95.50. Settlement, £578. Sales, 150 tons.

SILVER was about 2p lower.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 194.50p a troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 395); three months, 199.30p (400.1c); six months, 204.60p (406.9c); one-year, 215.40p (425c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon:—Cash, 193.2-93.5p; three months, 197.8-97.9p; seven months, 203.3-04.8p. Sales, 33 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 194-94.4p; three months, 198.9-99.0; seven months, 205.5-05.6p. Settlement, 194.4p. Sales, 113 lots (mainly carries).

TIN: Lower levels followed a $M14.378 drop at Penang. Standard cash was £6 down, three month fall by £4.50.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £3,130-40 a metric ton; three months, £3,203-05. Sales, 435 tons. High grade, Cash, £3,140-50; three months, £3,208-13. Sales, 10 tons (all carries). Morning.—Standard cash, £3,130-35; three months, £3,195-97. Settlement, £3,135. Sales, 180 tons (about half carries). High grade, cash, £3,135-37; three months, £3,300-3,205. Settlement, £3,137. Sales, nil tons. Singapore tin ex-works, $M976 a picul.

LEAD was slightly firmer. Afternoon.—Cash, £164.50-64.75 a metric ton; three months, £170.75-71.00. Sales, 250 tons. Morning.—Cash, £164-64.25; three months £170.50-70.75. Settlement, £164.25. Sales, 1,200 tons.

ZINC was steady and featureless.—Afternoon.—Cash, £337-37.50 a metric ton; three months, £347.25-47.75. Sales, 2,375 tons (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash, £336.50-37.00; three months, £346.75-47.00. Settlement, £337. Sales, 450 tons. Producers' price, £390 a metric ton. All afternoon metal prices are unofficial.

PLATINUM was 80p down at £67.50 ($137.50) a troy ounce.

RUBBER was slightly easier.—March, 39.40-39.75p per kilo; April, 40-40.40p; April-June, 40.25-40.30p; July-Sept, 41.50-41.60p; Oct-Dec, 43.05-43.10p; Jan-March, 44.20-44.35p; April-June, 45.15-45.25p; July-Sept, 45.60-46.00p; Oct-Dec, 46.25-46.65p. Sales: 98 lots at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were dull.—Spot, 39.25-40.00. Cifs, March 36.50-36.75; April 37.25-37.75.

COFFEE: Robusta futures advanced, March gaining £7.50, May £7.

ROBUSTAS.—March, £852-53 per metric ton; May, £863-64; July, £873-74; Sept, £880-81; Sept, £880-81; Nov, £884-86; Jan, £888-89; March, £895-97. Sales: 1,802 lots including 28 options.

ARABICAS were dull.—Feb, $104-106 per 50 kilos; April, $108.60-109.30; June, $108-109; Aug, $108.75-109.00; Oct, $108.80-109.75; Dec, $109.25-110.00; Feb, $110-110.50. Sales: 12 lots.

COCOA futures were slightly firmer.—March, £766-67 per metric ton; May, £497-49.50; July, £737-37.5; Sept, £717-17.50; Dec, £691-93; March, £687-88; May, £682-83. Sales: 2,346 lots including one option. ICO prices: daily 66.95c; 15-day average 63.97c; 20-day average 64.05c (US cents per lb).

SUGAR futures were barely steady. London daily prices were: "raws" £156 (£1 down); "whites" £178 (unchanged). March, £156.25-56.30 per long ton; May, £156.50-56.60; Aug, £157.55-57.75; Oct, £157.70-57.90; Dec, £158.40-58.50; March, £158.50-58.90; May, £158-59. Sales: 3,087 lots. ISA prices: 13.25c; 17-day average, 13.83c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was steady.—Feb, £81-89 per metric ton; April, £85.40-85.50; June, £86.50-86.60; Aug, £87.50-87.70; Oct, £88.60-88.80; Dec, £89.80-90.00; Feb, £90.90-91.50. Sales: 43 lots.

WOOL.—Greasy futures were steady. March, 182-187p per kilo; May, 191-94p; July, 199-202p; Oct, 206-208p; Dec, 212-214p; March, 216-218p; May, 221-223p. Sales: 12 lots.

JUTE was quiet.—Bangladesh white "C" grade, Feb-March, £198 per long ton. "D" grade, Feb-March, £187.50. Calcutta was steady.—Indian, spot, Rs490 per bale of 400lbs. Dundee Daisee, spot, Rs465.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: Feb, £96.75; April-May, £96.55; May, £96.80 sellers trans-shipment east coast. Argentine milling: Feb, £81; March, £82.40 east coast. EEC feed: Feb, £64.40; March, £65 east coast. **MAIZE.**—No 3 yellow American-French: Feb, £66.25; March, £67.15 trans-shipment east coast. South African white: March, £66.50 Glasgow. **BARLEY.**—EEC feed: Feb, £64.75; March, £65.50 east coast. All per long ton cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—**BARLEY** was steady: March, £63.65; May, £65.45; Sept, £65; Nov, £66.95; Jan, £68.85. **WHEAT** was steady: March, £64.55; May, £66.65; Sept, £65.68; Nov, £67.65; Jan, £69.50.

Home Grown Cereal Authority's location ex-farm spot prices.—

	Soft milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Hertford	£65.50	£65	£61.75
Borders (West)	—	—	£62.15

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 4.—**UK:** Cattle £23.86 per live cwt (−0.14). Sheep 41.0p per lb EDCW (−1.0). Pigs £4.89 per ScLW (+0.07). **England and Wales:** Cattle numbers up 10.4 per cent, average price £24.10 (−0.20). Sheep numbers down 1.9 per cent, average price 40.9p (−1.3). Pig numbers up 1.0 per cent, average price £4.90 (+0.07). **Scotland:** Cattle numbers down 1.4 per cent, average price £23.32 (−0.35). Sheep numbers up 39.9 per cent, average price 41.3p (−0.1). Pig numbers up 91.7 per cent, average price £4.73 (−0.05).

EGGS (The London Egg Exchange). In home-produced with supply and demand equating on all grades, the market is evenly poised. In imported no arrivals have been reported.

Home-produced market prices (in £, based on trading packer/first-hand):

White	Wed/Thur/Fri	Mon/Tues
Large	£3.30 to 3.40	£3.30 to 3.40
Standard	£3.00 to 3.15	£3.00 to 3.15
Medium	£2.70 to 2.85	£2.70 to 2.85
Small	£2.35 to 2.50	£2.35 to 2.50
Brown		
Large	£3.60 to 3.75	£3.50 to 3.70
Standard	£3.10 to 3.30	£3.10 to 3.25

All prices quoted are for bulk delivery in Keyes trays. The above range is a guide to general market conditions and is dependent upon location, quantity and whether delivered or not.

...ps £1m for first time

...h has a policy ...oast out over... ...s Venezuela, ...dinavia, kept ...k of the first ...ar to October

...designers and ...ndustrial and ...ings beat £1m ...me with an ...,000 to £1.01m ...om £23.1m to ...fits went up ...£433,000. The ...ly rises from ...11.7p. Mr ...hairman, and ...waivers for ...of two proposed acquisitions. When IDC became quoted in 1966, it was stated that Mr Hicks and his wife owned two companies, Housing Development Construction, and Housing & Planning Consultants. It was intended that IDC would be given the chance of buying them when they were well established. This is now the case.

An extraordinary meeting will therefore be convened to approve the proposed purchase by 600,000 new shares, worth about £630,000, equivalent to the net book assets of the two companies. The directors of IDC, other than the chairman, are being independently advised by Hill Samuel.

...o gives notice

Talbex to take over London Plastic

Talbex Group will take over London Plastic Packaging, which made a £500,000 loss in the 11 months to the end of December, in two weeks' time for £1 plus a deferred payment of any profits made by LPP in excess of £250,000 in the 1976 financial year and half the excess in the following financial year. The deferred consideration can be taken in cash or by the issue of up to 500,000 Talbex shares at 8½p each or the ruling market price, whichever is the greater.

Jefferson Smurfit make £1m investment

Smurfit Limited, the United Kingdom holding company of the Irish-based Jefferson Smurfit Group, has made a £1m investment in equipment to produce polythene bags for use by the United Kingdom wrapped-bread industry.

Charterhouse Japhet

Charterhouse Japhet, merchant bankers, have revealed that profits, after tax and transfer to inner reserve, for the year ended September 30, 1975, were £406,000 (1974—£808,000). Acceptances and advances, representing the level of commercial business, remained virtually unchanged.

In his annual statement, chairman M. H. W. Wells indicated that the reduction in *published profit* was due largely to the absence of special profit arising from the realization of investments during the year.

Briefly

BURCO DEAN

In his annual statement, Lord Hewlett, the chairman, reports that conditions are difficult and that results for the first half of 1976 may be "disappointing", but longer-term the board is "strongly confident" about the future.

BAKERS HOUSEHOLD

Mr Barry Baker, the chairman of Bakers Household Stores (Leeds), tells shareholders in his annual report that the first three months' period to Christmas has been "very encouraging" and shows a satisfactory increase in turnover and profitability.

DEANSON (HOLDINGS)

Mr Dennis Dean, chairman, reports in his annual statement that *there has been an improvement* in demand since the date of the accounts. During the coming 12 months the company is planning to spend "in the region of £200,000" on new equipment.

HALL & EARL

Hall & Earl Ltd, of Leicester, a subsidiary of Readson Ltd,—the Manchester-based textile group, have acquired the business of Junitex (Winsford) Ltd, for about £250,000 cash. Junitex was a subsidiary of UU Textiles and is principally known as a manufacturer of baby and childrenswear.

STONEWARE

Trading loss for half-year to Aug 31, £26,000 (profit, £20,500). But pre-tax profit for period of £25,000 (£75,000). Board expect second half will show some improvement.

HEPMEAD

Acceptances of offer by Hepmead for Andre Bernard Group amount to 90 per cent.

...ices ...icators)

...VIBRO... Base ...ates

...nk	10%
...on Secs	10%
...& Co ..	*10%
...k	10%
...ank	10%
...inster ...	10%
...r ACC's	10%
...rust	11½%
...& Glyn's	10%

...osits on sums of ...and under, 6%. ...5,000, 6¾%, over ...7¼%.

...IGHTINGALE & CO LIMITED
...dneedle Street, London EC2R 8HP Tel: 01-638 8651

Company	Last Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
Armitage & Rhodes	34	—	3.0	8.8	9.0
Deborah Services	103	—	7.5	7.3	5.5
Henry Sykes	145	—	4.9	3.4	9.7
Twinlock Ord	23	—	0.9	4.0	5.7
Twinlock 12% ULS	65	—	12.0	18.5	—
Unilock Holdings	62	—	4.5	7.3	12.0

Foreign Exchange

The dollar declined in several European centres yesterday in the backwash of some continued speculative buying of the mark.

In substantial operations involving both purchases and sales of dollars, the central banks of Britain, France and Japan were reported to be among the most active central banks in yesterday's foreign exchanges.

The French franc appeared to attract much of the market pressure, dealers said.

The Bank of Japan was estimated to have absorbed $200m in dollar support operations at the 303 yen level in Tokyo. The yen later moved to 300.25-55 in Europe.

The Bank of France sold between an estimated $70m and $100m to stabilize the franc against the mark.

Sterling rose 30 points against the dollar, to $2.0310. Its "effective rate" was unchanged at 30.1 per cent.

Gold fell $1.50 an ounce, to close at $129.75.

Spot Position of Sterling

	Market rates (day's range) February 4	Market rates (close) February 4
New York	$2.0280-0325	$2.0305-0315
Montreal	$2.0230-0275	$2.0265-0285
Amsterdam	5.39-42f	5.40-41f
Brussels	79.20-60f	79.40-60f
Copenhagen	12.45-49k	12.47½-48½k
Frankfurt	5.20½-24m	5.21-22m
Lisbon	55.10-40e	55.20-40e
Madrid	121.20-60p	121.40-60p
Milan	1,530-55lr	1,533-35lr
Oslo	11.20-24k	11.20½-21½k
Paris	9.03½-07f	9.04½-05½f
Stockholm	8.84½-87½k	8.85½-86½k
Tokyo	608-15y	609½-11½y
Vienna	37.00-30sch	37.05-25sch
Zurich	5.23-28f	5.26-27f

Effective depreciation since Dec 21, 1971, unchanged at 30.1 per cent.

Forward Levels

	1 month	3 months
New York	.85-.75c prem	2.38-2.28c prem
Montreal	.10c prem-par	.45-.35c prem
Amsterdam	3¼-2¼c prem	8¼-7¼c prem
Brussels	15c prem-05c disc	50-30c prem
Copenhagen	5-3ore prem	8½-6½ore prem
Frankfurt	3¼-2¼pf prem	8¼-7¼pf prem
Lisbon	20 prem-80c disc	25 prem-125c disc
Madrid	110-190c disc	180-260c disc
Milan	3lr prem-1lr disc	2lr prem-2lr disc
Oslo	5-3ore prem	13-11ore prem
Paris	1¼-½c prem	5-4c prem
Stockholm	3-1ore prem	7-5ore prem
Vienna	40-15gro prem	80-50gro prem
Zurich	4¼-3¼c prem	12-11c prem

Canadian dollar rate (against US dollar), $1.0022-25.

Eurodollar deposits (%) calls, 4¾-5¼; seven days, 4¾-5¼; one month, 4¾-5¼; three months, 5¼-5¾; six months, 5¾-6¼.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $130.40 (an ounce); pm, $129.75.

Krugerrand: (per coin): $132.50-134.50 (£65.25-66.25) (domestic); $133-135 (£65.50-66.50) (international).

Sovereigns: (old), $43.25-44.25 (£21.25-21.75) (new) $42.75-44.75 (£21.25) (international).

Eurosyndicat

The Eurosyndicat index of European share prices was put provisionally at 150.73 on February 3 against 149.97 a week earlier.

Discount market

Substantial tax payments bedevilled the money markets yesterday, and made conditions more difficult than had been expected. The Bank of England found it necessary to give help on a large scale, channelled directly to the houses by way of Treasury bill and corporation bill purchases.

Early in the session, when it had seemed that, at worst, the shortage of credit might be only small, rates had quickly slipped away from 9⅞-9¾ per cent to lunchtime levels of 9½ to 9¼. Then the supply of money ran dry and rates were swiftly bid up to 9¾ again, in the face of calling, before the Bank of England provided assistance.

After this official help, some late funds were obtained, and books were finally balanced anywhere between 8 and 9¼ per cent.

Business in Treasury bills was small, but rates went on falling. This made a 9¼ per cent MLR (currently 10) appear a virtual certainty for Friday, and dealing rates are even close to a level that might suggest 9¼.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 10%
(Last changed 30/1/76)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 10½%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: Open 9¾ Close 9
Week Fixed: 9½-9¾

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	9⅛	2 months	9⅛
3 months	9¼	3 months	9

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	9¾-9½	3 months	9⅞
3 months	9¾-9	4 months	9⅞
4 months	9⅞-9⅝	6 months	9⅞
6 months	9-9⅞		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	10⅛-9¾	7 months	10-9½
2 months	10⅛-9¾	8 months	10-9½
3 months	10⅛-9¾	9 months	10⅛-9¾
4 months	10-9½	10 months	10⅛-9¾
5 months	10-9½	11 months	10⅛-9¾
6 months	10-9½	12 months	10⅛-9¾

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	9½-9¼	6 months	9⅞-9⅝
3 months	9¾-9½	12 months	9⅞-9⅝

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	9¾-9½	3 months	9½
7 days	9½	6 months	9½-9¾
1 month	9½	1 year	10¼

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 9½-9¼ Close 8

1 week	9½-9¼	6 months	9⅞-9¾
1 month	9½-9¼	9 months	9⅞-9¾
3 months	9⅝-9½	12 months	9⅞-9¾

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 10 6 months 10

Finance House Base Rate 11%

Recent Issues

	Closing price
Bowring C.T. 10% Cnv (£100)	£102
Essex Wtr 9½% Pf (£)	£93
Lee Valley Wtr 9½% Rd Pf (*)	£102¾
Treasury 9½% A 1980 (£96)	£95¹³⁄₁₆-⅜

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Baker Perkins (50)	Mar 12	14 prem
BBK (25)	Mar 24	1 prem
Ocean Trans (110)	..	30½ prem
Stenhouse (64)	..	2½ prem
Tomkins F. H. (104)	Apr 2	2 prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £45 paid. b £10 paid. c £30 paid. f £50 paid. g £60 paid. h £25 paid. i £40 paid.

Wall Street

New York, Feb 4.—Issues were higher over a broad front at the New York stock exchange close.

The Dow Jones industrial average showed an advance of 4.01 points to 976.62.

About 1,130 Big Board issues gained compared with about 450 decliners.

Volume was 38,270,000 shares, compared with 34,080,000 yesterday.

In early trading, brokers said, investors were switching out of blue chip issues into secondary stocks, but added that the basic industries began to attract more attention toward the market closing.

They also reported some disappointment that other main New York banks thus far have refused to follow First National City Bank's prime rate cut to 6¾ per cent from 6½ per cent.

Mr William Simon, Treasury Secretary, forecast a 3 per cent gain this year in business real capital spending.

Gold falls away $2.3

New York, Feb 4.—**GOLD** futures closed lower in moderately active trading. The New York Comex fell $1.40 to $1.90 while the Chicago IMM declined by $1.60 to $3.30. **NEW YORK COMEX.**—Feb $128.60; March, $128.90; April, $129.20; June, $130.50; Aug, $131.80; Oct, $133.20; Dec, $134.60; Feb, $136.00; April, $137.40; June, $133.80. **CHICAGO IMM.**—March, $128.60-128.40; June, $130.20 asked-130.00; Sept, $132.50 asked; Dec, $134.50 bid; March, $136.70 asked.

SILVER.—Futures were Feb, 391.50c; March, 395.00c; April, 395.70c; May, 397.70c; July, 402.70c; Sept, 408.10c; Dec, 416.50c; Jan, 419.20c; March, 424.80c; May, 430.40c. Handy and Harman $391.70 (previous $396). Handy and Harman of Canada Can$3.914 (previous Can$3.959).

COPPER. Futures closed steady 20 points up on 3,309 lots. Feb, 55.20c; March, 55.60c; April, 56.00c; May, 56.40c; July, 57.30c; Sept, 58.20c; Dec, 59.40c; Jan, 59.80c; March, 60.70c.

SUGAR. World sugar futures in No 11 contract closed around the day's lows, 0.14 to 0.06 cent down. March, 13.09-12c; May, 13.13-15c; July, 13.19-22c; Sept, 13.22c; Oct, 13.23c nominal; Jan, 13.25c nominal; March, 13.26c; May, 13.27-29c. Spot, 13.05c, off 15.

COTTON. Futures closed 0.35 to 0.68 cent down. March, 60.63-75c; May, 61.50-60c; July, 62.05-15c; Oct, 60.50-65c; Dec, 58.30-40c; March, 58.90-90.5c; May, 59.15c bid; July, 59.25c bid.

COFFEE. Futures in "C" contract surged to new contract highs, closing slightly off the top, at gains of 1.40 to 1.08 cents. March, 97.40-50c; May, 97.50-35c; July, 97.25-30c; Sept, 97.25c; Dec, 97.00-25c.

COCOA. Futures closed steady on sales of 880 lots. March, 70.80c; May, 66.35c; July, 64.10c; Sept, 62.15c; Dec, 59.30c; March, 57.80c; May, 57.05c; July, 55.00c bid. Spots: Ghana 78c, Bahia 74c.

WOOL. Futures finished 0.15 cent higher on one sale. Crossbred futures were featureless. **GREASE WOOL.** Spot 167.5c nominal. March, 162.5-8.0c; May, 164.0-6.5c; July, 161.5-5.0c; Oct, 160.0-4.0c; Dec, 160.0-5.0c; March, 160.0-5.0c; May, nil. **CROSSBRED:** Spot, 99.0c nominal. March, 96.5-101.0c; May, 99.6-102.0c; July, 97.0-100.0c; Oct, 95.0-102.0c; Dec, 99.5-103.0c; March, 95.0-103.0c; May, nil.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS. — Futures closed just above or at the day's lows. Meal dropped $0.20 to $0.70 a ton and oil slid $0.40 to $0.35 cent a lb on fair trading volume. **SOYABEANS.**—March, 474-75c; May, 482½-83c; July, 490-89½c; Aug, 492½c; Sept, 497c; Nov, 502½-03c; Jan, 509½c; March, 516½c; May, 523½c. **SOYABEAN MEAL** (New).—March, 136.50-5.00; May, 138.20; July, 140.00-0.50; Aug, 141.00; Sept, 141.00-1.50; Oct, 141.20; Dec, 144.50. **SOYABEAN MEAL.**—March, $136.90-6.80. **SOYABEAN OIL.**—March, 15.65-60c; May, 15.80-82c; July, 16.00-05c; Aug, 16.10c; Sept, 16.15-20c; Oct, 16.20c; Dec, 16.40-35c; Jan, 16.40-45c.

CHICAGO GRAINS.—**WHEAT** closed 6¾ to ⅛ cent lower. March, 350-351½c; May, 358-357½c; July, 361½-360c; Sept, 368½-368c; Dec, 378c; March, 388c. **MAIZE** closed ¾ to 1¼ cent lower. March, 266¾-266½c; May, 272½-272¼c; July, 276-275¾c; Sept, 273½c; Dec, 267c; March, 273¼c. **OATS** closed 2 to 1¼ cent lower. March, 157¼c; May, 152c; July, 147½c; Sept, 147¼c; Dec, 146½c nominal.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, $2.0314 ($2.0274); three months, $2.0084 ($2.0020); Canadian dollar, 100.20c (100.17c).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was up .02 to 301.99. The futures index was up 1.46 to 295.32.

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 976.62 (972.61); transportation, 201.94 (199.45); utilities, 91.90 (91.20); 65 stocks, 299.50 (297.54).

New York Stock Exchange index, 54.24 (53.80); industrials, 60.41 (59.90); transportation, 37.93 (37.37); utilities, 36.38 (36.21); financial, 53.56 (53.15).

	Feb 4	Feb 3
Allied Chem	41½	41
Allied Stores	49½	48½
Allied Supermkt	3½	3½
Allis Chalmers	14¾	14½
Alcoa	46	45½
Amax Inc	53⅞	53¼
Amerada Hess	21¾	20
Am Airlines	11¼	10¾
Am Brands	40	40
Am Broadcast	25⅞	25½
Am Can	33½	33
Am Cyanamid	27⅝	27¼
Am Elec Power	22½	22⅝
Am Home	37⅝	36⅞
Am Motors	6⅛	5⅞
Am Nat Gas	36½	35½
Am Standard	23	22
Am Telephone	55	54½
AMF Inc	24	23¼
Anaconda	19¾	20
Armco Steel	33	33
Asarco	16⅛	16
Ashland Oil	25½	25⅝
Atlantic Richfield	89⅞	89
Avco	7½	7¼
Avon Products	42⅝	43½
Babcock & Wcox	25	24½
Bankers Tst NY	35	34½
Bank of America	46⅛	45½
Bank of NY	31⅝	31¼
Beatrice Foods	24½	24¼
Bell & Howell	20½	21
Bendix	50⅛	49¾
Bethlehem Steel	42⅞	42½
Boeing	27⅝	27½
Boise Cascade	29½	28½
Borden	25¾	25
Borg Warner	25½	25¼
Bristol Myers	77½	77½
BP	11¼	11⅛
Budd	13⅞	13¾
Burlington Ind	33⅞	33¼
Burlington Nthn	37	37½
Burroughs	106⅛	106⅝
Campbell Soup	35½	35¼
Canadian Pacific	15	15⅛
Caterpillar	80	80
Celanese	55⅜	55⅝
Central Soya	16⅜	17¼
Charter NY	25	24¾
Chase Manhat	32	30½
Chem Bank NY	34⅞	35¼
Chesapeake Ohio	38½	38½
Chrysler	15¼	14½
Citicorp	33½	32½
Cities Service	46½	42½
Clark Equip	35½	33¾
Coca Cola	91⅞	92
Colgate	27½	27¼
CBS	56¼	56¼
Columbia Gas	26⅝	25¾
Combustion Eng	38½	38⅝
Comwlth Edison	31¾	31¼
Cons Edison	17½	17½
Cons Foods	22½	22¼
Cons Power	21	21
Continental Can	28⅛	28⅛
Continental Oil	67⅞	68
Control Data	26⅛	26¼
Corning Glass	54⅛	54⅝
CPC Intnl	47¼	47½
Crane	65	65⅞
Crocker Int	26	25½
Crown Zeller	42⅛	41⅜
Dart Ind	34⅞	34⅝
Deere	60½	60⅝
Del Monte	23½	23¼
Delta Air	43	40½
Detroit Edison	15	15
Disney	62⅝	60⅞
Dow Chemical	107⅞	108¼
Dresser Ind	74	70½
Duke Power	20¼	20¼
Du Pont	158	157¼
Eastern Air	5⅛	5⅛
Eastman Kodak	113⅞	113⅛
Eaton Corp	33½	34
El Paso Nat Gas	15⅛	14¾
Equitable Life	20½	20¼
Esmark	38	38
Evans P. D.	6¾	6½
Exxon Corp	91⅞	92
Fed Dept Stores	51¼	50⅞
Firestone	23½	23
Fst Chicago	21⅛	21½
Fst Nat Boston	26½	26⅞
Fst Penn Corp	15⅝	15½

• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market Closed. n New Issue. p Stock Split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

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Barnett Hse, Fountain St, Man 2. 061-236 9775

1975/76 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
35.6	20.6	Giants	32.1	34.6	3.54
35.6	21.7	Do Accum	35.0	37.7	3.54
30.8	18.2	Growth	30.0	32.3	3.51
33.0	19.0	Do Accum	33.0	35.5	3.51
38.8	20.7	Income	36.1	38.8	10.03
38.8	23.4	Do Accum	38.7	41.6	10.03
20.6	15.8	East & Int Acc	18.6	20.0	2.48

Abbey Unit Trust Managers.
72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296-5941

31.3	20.8	Abbey Capital	24.2	25.7	3.86
36.7	19.4	Abbey General	26.6	28.4	4.82
32.3	13.3	Do Income	29.1	31.0	8.35
29.2	13.9	Do Invest	28.8	30.7	3.69

Appointments Vacant

GENERAL VACANCIES

Granada Television
RESEARCH AND MARKETING

Internal re-organisation has resulted in two vacancies in our London-based research and marketing team which provides vital support to the advertising sales organisation. Opportunities currently exist for the following:

EXECUTIVE

To collect and interpret information relating to clients' marketing and media activities nationally and with specific reference to the Granada Television Area. An important qualification is the ability to write concise and actionable reports and recommendations. This position would appeal to someone of graduate calibre with two or more years' commercial experience, who is seeking more responsibility and variety. Applicants should be self-motivated with well-developed communicative skills.

ASSISTANT

We are also seeking a recently qualified graduate, or equivalent, to assist an Executive in project work. The person selected should be capable of advancing to an executive position in due course. Salaries for both positions will be negotiable according to age and experience.

Apply in writing to:
Miss Susan Simpson, Research Manager
GRANADA TELEVISION LIMITED
36 Golden Square, London W1R 4AH

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Degree, knowledge of education advantageous. Some absence from home.

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'WHY AM I HAVING PROBLEMS?'

If you ask yourself that question when you are seeking staff then have a closer look at the way *The Times* is planning its classified recruitment pages for this year.

Each category will appear with a banner heading on a related day:

MONDAY—Local Government Public and Educational
TUESDAY—Legal Appointments
WEDNESDAY—La Crème de la Crême
THURSDAY—Non-Secretarial
FRIDAY—£6,000-plus Appointments

To find out more and to book your space, ring *The Times* Appointments Team on
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PICTURE EDITOR/CAPTION WRITER

Required by the
Central Office of Information in London

to assist in initiating and selecting pictures of direct appeal to the press and television stations in overseas countries. The post calls for a keen interest in current affairs; some experience of briefing photographers and of working with them on assignments; and the ability to write lively factual captions on a wide range of subjects including industry. Press or agency experience is desirable. The post is graded Assistant Information Officer. Salary according to experience and qualifications on a scale which rises to £4,135 per annum. Promotion prospects, non-contributory pension scheme. For full details and application form please send postcard to

Central Office of Information, Atlantic House, Room 53, Floor 1, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2PD,

quoting reference number COI/PT/9/AA. Closing date for completed forms 26 February, 1976.

SOFT FURNISHING TRADE

MARVIC TEXTILES LTD., distributors of Graber window products and wholesalers of furnishing fabrics, have a vacancy for an

OFFICE MANAGER

who has preferably had some experience in the soft furnishing trade. Work comprises a wide variety of administrative responsibilities combined with merchandising and customer service and would suit someone who would like to assume authority in a progressive distribution company. Salary range £2,600-£3,500 according to age and experience.

Personal details in writing only to:
Peter Afia,
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With love of young people to manage College housing for 30 American women studying at Reading University. Present Custodians retiring after 7 years. No catering, comfortable centrally heated flat, good holidays, salary open.

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c £3,500

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For further information ring Brian Abbishaw on 01-405 0654.

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GOOD HOUSEKEEPING INSTITUTE is looking for a Home Economist to take an active responsible part in recipe development, creative food photography and product research. Two or three years' experience since qualifying as a Home Economist required.—Write with full details of experience to Carol Macartney, Good Housekeeping Institute, Chestergate House, Vauxhall Bridge Rd., London SW1V 1HF.

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ACCOUNTANCY

A SENIOR ACCOUNTS Assistant is required for varied duties involving most aspects of accounting, including keeping and controlling records, assisting with preparation of financial and management accounts and reports. The Senior Accounts Assistant works directly to the Accountant and will be responsible for the work of two clerks in the department. The post would appeal to someone with wide accounts experience, preferably a partly qualified accountant. Salary within scale £3,369 to £3,981, superannuation and 6 weeks' holiday p.a. Application forms are available by writing to the Accountant, National Institute for Social Work, 5/7 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SS, or by phoning Mrs. Wroo, 01-387 9681.

OPENINGS at all levels in the Profession.—Gabriel Duffy Consultancy, Kensington, 01-937 9821.

ACCOUNTS CLERK, £3,700. See Non Secretarial Appts.

MANAGEMENT AND EXECUTIVE

JUNIOR EXECUTIVE

Post may shortly be vacant for junior executive, with senior prospects, with India-based British firm in London, S.W.1.

Candidates (between 35 and 45) should preferably have Indian connections and experience in international trading with India and other countries. Please write with photograph, full details of career to date and salary required, to Box 2088 S, The Times.

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FIRST CLASS SPACE REPRESENTATIVES
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01-660 4191, ext. 106.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

ALANGATE Business Transfer Dept., a country-wide service specialising in negotiation, sales and purchase of legal practices and mergers. Address all inquiries to Mr. W. Kerry, Alangate Agency, 6 Great Queen St., London, W.C.2, or tel. 01-405 7201, ext. 49.

ALANGATE Legal Staff. The specialist consultants to the profession offer a confidential service to employers and staff at all levels. Telephone for appointment or write to Mrs Rolnick, Mrs Harkness or Mr Gates, 01-405 7201, at 6 Great Queen St., London WC2 (off Kingsway).

LONDON LEGAL BUREAU. Specialists to the legal profession. Central London and rural vacancy list available on request. No fees to applicants. Ring 378 6897.

RAPIDLY expanding north Cheshire solicitors require Assistant Solicitor to cover all aspects of general practice work in modern office. Salary according to age and experience but not less than £5,000 p.a. with partnership prospects. Please write Box 2396 S, The Times.

TRUSTS.—West End firm seek solicitor or clerk with U.K. experience of trusts and admin. Temporary position, could become permanent. c. £80 p.w.—Telephone Reuter Simpkin Ltd., 01-629 1382.

SCOTLAND HIGHLANDS

For privately run top country house hotel on estate for season April-October (1) Receptionist; (2) Two cooks cordon bleu or similar; (3) Bar and Porter; (4) Staff for Dining room and upstairs; (5) Young lady to look after 2 children in Mr. & Mrs. Buchanan-Smith's house. Challenging situation for young—people in 20s and 30s wanting a break from the South. See Egon Ronay Guide 1976 for details. Apply with photograph to:

Isle of Eriska Hotel,
By Oban, Argyle.
Telephone Ledaig 205.

COMPUTER STAFF

PROGRAMMER IBM £2.50 p.h.: 6 months contract. Oxford area. Angel Staff 236 6836.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE
TWO SOLICITORS/ADVOCATES

Required in busy litigation departments in neighbouring attractive market towns where houses are cheaper than in most areas; congenial working conditions. Top salaries available for the right men. Would prefer 1-2 years' experience but newly qualified persons considered. Interview expenses paid.

Please apply:

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PE21 6SW
Tel: 0205 61261

10 Pinchbeck Road
Spalding
Lincs
PE11 1PZ
Tel: 0775 4141

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

AIGLON COLLEGE

This English Language International Boarding School in the Swiss Alps for 250 boys and girls, 11 to 18, requires for September:

1. HOUSEMASTER (aged 30-45) for house of 60 girls. Wife Housemother.
2. HOUSEMASTER (aged 30-45) for house of 60 boys. Wife Housemother.
3. HEAD OF BIOLOGY possibly combined with posts 1 or 2.
4. HEAD OF ENGLISH.
5. E.F.L./REMEDIAL ENGLISH TEACHER.
6. EXPEDITIONS MISTRESS. Mountain Leadership Certificate or equivalent experience required.

All posts. Boarding School experience valuable, capacity for hard work and willingness to contribute fully to community necessary. Knowledge of French, ability to help with outdoor or cultural activities an advantage. Posts 1, 2, 5 and 6 residential. Posts 1, 2 and 6 to be combined with part-time teaching including Mathematics (to "O" level) and Geography. Possibility of some teaching for Housemothers. Full details on application.

Apply with curriculum vitae, testimonials, two referees and phone numbers (own and referees) to the Headmaster, Aiglon College, 1885 Chesières Villars, Switzerland. Chesières (025) 327 27.

Interviews London 8th-11th March.

YOUNG EXPERIENCED EFL Teachers or Graduates required Madrid 9th Feb. to 30 June, 1976. Phone Mrs. Snow, 01-946 2891.

QUALIFIED EFL teacher required by Language School for Scandinavian executives. Starting salary £49.50 per week.—IBC Ltd., 01-370 5009 (mornings).

NORTHERN ITALY.—Applications are invited for E.F.L. teaching posts which will be vacant in October. Interviews in London in April. Please send C.V. and telephone number to Box 2350 S, The Times.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of The West Indies—Trinidad

Applications are invited for the post of

LECTURER/ASSISTANT LECTURER
IN INORGANIC CHEMISTRY

in the Department of Chemistry. An interest in modern analytical chemistry would be an advantage. Salary scales (under review): Lecturer: TT$13,200-TT$20,904 p.a.; Assistant Lecturer, TT$10,716-TT$11,748 p.a. (£1 sterling equals TT$4.80). F.S.S.U. Unfurnished accommodation will be let by the University at a rental of 10% of salary. If, however, the staff member provides his own accommodation, he will be paid a housing allowance of 20% of his pensionable salary. Family passages. Study and Travel Grant. Detailed applications (six copies) giving full particulars of qualifications and experience, date of birth, marital status and the names and addresses of three referees should be sent as soon as possible to the Secretary, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad. Further particulars for this post will be sent to all applicants.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

The University of Sheffield
DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

TWO LECTURERS IN LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Applications are invited for the above posts, tenable from 31 March 1976. Duties include supervision of project work in the postgraduate course in Landscape Design and the Natural Environmental Science course with Landscape Studies.

Candidates should have good academic and professional qualifications. For one post a scientific background would be of advantage and for the other professional experience of design and contract supervision is needed.

Initial salaries in the range £3,174-£3,836 on the scale £3,174-£6,436 plus superannuation. Further particulars from The Registrar and Secretary, The University, Sheffield S10 2TN, to whom applications (5 copies) should be sent by 28 February 1976. Quote ref. R. 319/A.

University of London
CHAIR OF COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING
AT IMPERIAL COLLEGE

The Senate invites applications for the newly established Chair of Communications Engineering tenable in the Department of Electrical Engineering at Imperial College with effect from 1 September 1976, or as soon as possible thereafter. Initial salary to be agreed but not less than £7,897 per annum plus £399 London Allowance. Applications (10 copies) must be received not later than 26 March, 1976, by the Academic Registrar (T), University of London, Senate House, London, WC1E 7HU, from whom further particulars should be obtained.



Antony Gibbs & Sons, Ltd.

Accountant or Lawyer

Antony Gibbs & Sons, Ltd., require a Chartered Accountant or Lawyer aged between 25 and 35, to join their expanding Commercial Banking Department. Previous banking experience would be an advantage but it is essential that the applicant has the ability to use initiative, enjoys meeting people and is able to work within a team.

The salary for this appointment is negotiable. Fringe benefits include a mortgage subsidy scheme.

Applications, which will be treated in complete confidence, should be sent with a brief curriculum vitae to:–
C. E. Fiddian-Green,
Antony Gibbs Management Services Ltd.,
23 Blomfield Street, London, EC2M 7NL.

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Command of clear, basic English and good knowledge of layout, printing and production; ability to mix at all levels and high regard for human values; decision-making judgment; strong self-motivation—all essential.

Particular responsibility for shaping public opinion, good relations with Press, TV and Radio and developing efficient information service for them and the charity's voluntary supporters. Some travel involved.

Please apply in writing with career and personal details, to Michael Andrews at: Eric Williams & Partners (Public Relations Consultants) Ltd., Rusley Towers, Claygate, Esher, Surrey KT10 0HZ, who are retained to advise on this appointment.

ST. ANNE'S COLLEGE OXFORD

Lectureship in Economics

The College wishes to appoint, with effect from 1st October 1976, a Lecturer in Economics to teach 10 hours a week. The appointment, which is open to men and women, will be for two years in the first instance and is renewable.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Principal to whom applications, including the name of two referees, should be sent by 28th February 1976.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM
TANZANIA

Applications are invited for the following posts in the Department of Zoology:—

1. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in ZOOLOGY (Wildlife Ecology and Management). Candidates should hold a PhD and several years' research experience in Wildlife Ecology or a related subject. Previous research experience in Wildlife Ecology in East Africa would be an advantage. The appointee will be expected to organise an undergraduate course in Wildlife Ecology and Management; to teach undergraduate and postgraduate students in Wildlife Ecology and Management; to supervise and guide postgraduate research in Wildlife Ecology and to plan and direct integrated field research pertinent to Wildlife Conservation and Management in East Africa.

2. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in ZOOLOGY (Freshwater Biology). Candidates should have a PhD and several years' research experience in Freshwater Biology (or Limnology). Previous research experience in Freshwater Biology in East Africa would be an advantage. The appointee will be expected to organise an undergraduate course in Freshwater Biology and to teach this to undergraduates and postgraduates; to guide and supervise postgraduate research in Freshwater Biology or Limnology and to plan and direct integrated Limnological research in Tanzania.

3. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in MARINE BIOLOGY (Fish Biologist). Candidates should possess a PhD and several years' research experience in the biology and ecology of fish with a special interest in population biology and behaviour. A knowledge of applied aspects: e.g. fisheries management, conservation, mariculture, would be an advantage. The appointee will be expected to participate in the planning and teaching of undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses in Marine Biology and Oceanography; to supervise postgraduate research in marine ecology; to undertake personal research projects and to participate in integrated research in marine resources development in Eastern Africa.

4. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in MARINE BIOLOGY (Physical Oceanographer). Candidates should possess a PhD and several years' research experience in physical and chemical oceanography. A special interest in coastal waters would be an advantage. The appointee will be expected to participate in the planning and teaching of undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Marine Biology and Oceanography. He/she would be required to teach courses in physical, chemical and geological oceanography; to supervise postgraduate research in his/her discipline; to undertake personal research and to participate in integrated research in marine resources development in Eastern Africa.

Salary scale: Senior Lecturer T£2,630-T£3,050 p.a.; Lecturer T£2,150-T£2,570 p.a. (T£1 equals £1.19 sterling). The British Government may supplement salaries in range £2,392-£2,628 p.a. (sterling) for married appointees or £1,428-£1,674 p.a. (sterling) for single appointees (no really free of all tax) and provide children's education allowances and holiday visit passages. FSSU; family passages; biennial overseas leave.

Detailed applications (2 copies), including a curriculum vitae and naming 3 referees, should be sent by air mail, not later than 3 March 1976, to the Chief Academic Officer, University of Dar es Salaam, P.O. Box 35091, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Applicants resident in U.K. should also send 1 copy to Inter-University Council, 90/91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further particulars may be obtained from either address.

Oxford University
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the following posts:

(1) UNIVERSITY LECTURER IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS. Preference will be given to candidates with research interests in social problems, organisations, institutions or administration with a bearing on agricultural and rural affairs. Salary will be on the scale £3,174 (at age 24 or under) to £6,878 (at age 42 or over) with superannuation.

(2) Two posts on the salary scale £3,115-£3,630, for a period up to three years, to undertake TEACHING AND RESEARCH duties. Applicants should be graduates well qualified in Quantitative Economics and/or Econometrics for one post, and in Economics, Agricultural Economics or other appropriate subjects for the other.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Administrator, Institute of Agricultural Economics, Dartington House, Little Clarendon Street, Oxford, OX1 2HP, to whom applications (10 copies from United Kingdom applicants for the Lecturer post) with the names of three referees should be sent by March 1, 1976.

University of Glasgow
CHAIR OF MERCANTILE LAW

Applications are invited for appointment to the Chair of Mercantile Law which will fall vacant on 30th September, 1976, by the retiral of Professor J. Bennett Miller, C.B.E., T.D., M.A., LL.B. The appointment is whole-time but applications on a part-time basis will also be considered.

Further particulars may be had from the Secretary of the University Court (Room 13), The University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ, with whom applications (20 copies) giving the names and addresses of three referees should be lodged on or before 15th March, 1976.

In reply please quote Ref. No. 3730/1.E.

University of Warwick
PROFESSORSHIP OF ENGLISH

Applications are invited for a Professorship of English in the Department of English and Comparative Literary Studies. The vacancy arises from Professor G. K. Hunter's acceptance of an appointment at Yale University. Salary in the professorial range (minimum £7,897 p.a.). Further particulars may be obtained from the Academic Registrar, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL, to whom applications (5 copies), naming three referees, should be sent by 27th February, 1976. Please quote Ref. No. 24/SF/76.

University of Southampton
PROFESSOR OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

Applications are invited from medical practitioners for appointment to the Cancer Research Campaign Chair of Clinical Oncology. Salary within the University's clinical professorial range.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Academic Registrar, The University, Southampton SO9 5NH, and applications (11 copies from applicants in the United Kingdom and one from others) must be submitted before 31 March, 1976.

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G.C.E., DEGREE & Professional exams. Tuition by post. Free prospectus, W. Milligan, M.A., Dept. AJ4, Wolsey Hall, Oxford OX2 6PR. Tel. 0865 54231.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Royal Holloway College
(University of London)
Egham Hill, Egham, Surrey.

JUBILEE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited for a Jubilee Research Fellowship tenable for three years from 1 October, 1976, open to persons of post-doctoral standing in Arts, Music or Science. Salary on scale £3,120-£3,330-£3,590 plus £399 London Allowance. Further details may be obtained from the Personnel Officer (T), to whom applications (three copies please) should be sent by 31st March, 1976.

DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

HOUSEKEEPER FATHER'S HELP

(35-50) required for father and 2 children, boy 8 and girl 10. Other daily help kept, own s.c. accommodation, pleasant house, Bromley area, car available for driver, salary negotiable. References essential, 690 0808, day or Farnborough, Kent 58488, evenings.

EXPERIENCED NANNY

preferably over 28 required for Knightsbridge home. Baby boy 6 months. Excellent conditions. Own room, colour T.V., bathroom, plus nursery and playroom. Daily help. £30 clear.

TELEPHONE 584 2918
AFTER 3 p.m.

£45 per week. Own bathroom, T.V., use of car, for lady (under 45) used to running a home, cooking, experienced driver, to join Highgate family (2 adults, 3 teenagers). References. Regret no accommodation for dependants. Write/ring Mrs. Greenberry, Star House, Grafton Road, London, N.W.5. (01-485 7611, office hours).

ELDERLY LADY in Kent needs help with cooking and housework. Country situation so must drive car. Age under 60. Good 3 bedroom c.h. furnished cottage available. No children under 5. Box 3477 S, The Times.

NURSE with gardener husband required. Excellent house available furnished or unfurnished. Regret no small children. References essential. Ring Chilbolton 366 (Hampshire).

SINGLE RESIDENT nurse required to care for middle-aged woman with heart trouble. Own room with TV. References essential. Ring Chilbolton 366 (Hampshire).

FRANCE. Mothers help wanted for English family living in Paris suburb, from March 1st. £20 p.w. Ring 01-734 0533 A.M.S.A.

AU PAIR BUREAU, PICCADILLY, world's largest au pair Agency offers best jobs London or abroad at 87 Regent St., W.1. 930 4757 & 325 Oxford St., W.1. 408 1013.

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ROME. Nanny/Governess, well educated and responsible young lady, 25 plus, to care for 10-year-old boy. New World Agency. 041-887 7061.

SOUTH OF FRANCE.—Reliable Nanny required. Super post.—Evington Agy., 4 Market Place, Leicester. Tel.: 536261.

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WORKING HOUSEKEEPER: 50s, child 13 years, 6 and five year references. British Agency, London Road, Horsham. Tel. 5571.

LEGAL NOTICES

PA MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS Limited, 4 Albert Gate, London SW1X 7JU gives notice that in relation to the PETITION published in "The Times" on Tuesday, 3rd February 1976, the disputed amount of £2550 has been settled and the petitioning creditor has agreed to the dismissal of the petition by consent. Audited accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1974 are available from the Company Secretary at the above address.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matter of BRAYWAD Limited. Nature of Business: Investment Trust.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 1st December, 1975.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 18th February 1976, at The Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London, WC2 at 11.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 12.00 o'clock.
E. W. LESWORTH, Acting Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matter of UNATONE PROPERTIES Limited. Nature of Business: Dealers in property and estates.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 8th December, 1975.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS, 20th February, 1976, at Room G30, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD at 11.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 11.30 o'clock.
N. SADDLER, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matter of A.M.L. DISTRIBUTORS Limited. Nature of Business: Dealers in calculators and business equipment.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 24th November, 1975.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS, 19th February, 1976, at Room G30, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD at 2.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 2.30 o'clock.
N. SADDLER, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matter of STEVEN CHRISTOPHER (INSURANCE BROKERS) Limited. Nature of Business: Insurance brokers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 1st December 1975.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 19th February 1976, at Room 239 Templar House 81 High Holborn London WC1V 6NP at 10.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 10.30 o'clock.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matter of LEA BUILDERS Limited. Nature of Business: Builders.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 1st December 1975.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 18th February 1976, at Room 239 Templar House 81 High Holborn London WC1V 6NP at 11.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 11.30 o'clock.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matter of FITZWILLIAM AUTOMOBILE SERVICE Limited. Nature of Business: Motor Garage proprietors.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 15th December 1975.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 20th February 1976, at Room 239 Templar House 81 High Holborn London WC1V 6NP at 12 o'clock noon.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day at the same place at 12.30 p.m.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In The Matter of S. & J. (Mens Shops) Limited. Nature of Business: Bespoke Tailors.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 8th December 1975.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 20th February 1976, at Room G30 Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD at 10.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 10.30 o'clock.
N. SADDLER, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948 to 1967 ALLEGRO SOUND EQUIPMENT Limited (in members' voluntary liquidation)
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to section 293 of the Companies Act 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1M 6JE on Thursday, the 12th day of February, 1976, at Twelve midday.
Dated this 28th day of January, 1976.
P. MONJACK, F.C.A., Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matter of FILM FORMS Limited. Nature of Business: Film Makers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 24th November 1975.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 19th February 1976, at Room 239 Templar House, 81 High Holborn, London, WC1 V6NP at 11.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 11.30 o'clock.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.



DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA
MINISTRY FOR INDUSTRY AND ENERGY
SOCIETE NATIONAL SONATRACH

INTERNATIONAL INVITATION TO TENDER

International tenders are invited for the supervision of construction work of Hassi-R'Mel Arzew No. 2 gas pipeline which will consist of the following:

—ONE LINE 40in. IN DIAMETER
—ONE OUTPUT TERMINAL AT ARZEW
—ONE INPUT TERMINAL AT HASSI-R'MEL.

Copies of the specification S may be obtained from PROJECT GAZODUC, 40in HASSI-R'MEL/ARZEW—PO BOX No. 3—ARZEW.
Telephone: 377.127 and 376.136
Telex: 2281 Cezend Arzew
as from 20th January, 1976.

Tenders should be addressed to SONATRACH
PROJECT GAZODUC 40" No. 1 and 2
HASSI-R'MEL/ARZEW
BP No. 3—ARZEW
to arrive by not later than 1st March, 1976.

Bids will remain valid for ninety (90) days as from the final date for receipt of tenders.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE in BANKRUPTCY No 1600 of 1975.
Re: John Michael Cappen—COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE and residing at 545 Eastern Avenue, Ilford, Essex. (Under Receiving Order dated 28th November 1975) First Meeting of Creditors 13th February 1976, at 12 o'clock noon at Room 410, 4th Floor, Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2JY. Public Examination 13th May, 1976, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon at Court 46 (Queen's Building), Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL.
D. A. THORNE, Official Receiver.
N.B.—All debts due to be paid to me.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matter of SEC SOUTH-EAST CARRIERS Limited FORMERLY WETRAM (UK) Limited. Nature of Business: Transport agents and carriers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 15th December, 1975.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS, 4th February, 1976, at Room G30, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD at 10.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 10.30 o'clock.
N. SADDLER, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matter of LECSON AUDIO, Limited. Nature of Business: Hi fi electrical engineers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 10th November 1975.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 19th February 1976, at Room G30 Atlantic House Holborn Viaduct London EC1N 2HD at 10.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES On the same day and at the same place at 10.30 o'clock.
N. SADDLER, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matter of SAVE GLAZE Limited T/A ALLSEASONS HOME IMPROVEMENTS. Nature of Business: Dealers in double glazing equipment.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 8th December 1975.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 18th February 1976, at Room 239 Templar House 81 High Holborn London WC1V 6NP at 12.00 o'clock at noon.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 12.30 o'clock.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matters of MARTIN SOBEY DEVELOPMENTS Limited. Nature of Business: Cassette Manufacturers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 8th December 1975.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 18th February 1976, at Room G30 Atlantic House Holborn Viaduct London EC1N 2HD at 3.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES On the same day and at the same place at 3.30 o'clock.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

DRAWING OF BONDS

KINGDOM OF NORWAY
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5th February, 1976.

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MINISTRY FOR INDUSTRY AND ENERGY

Societe Algerienne de realisation d'infrastructure de distribution societe alrid
Subsidiary of Sanatrach

INTERNATIONAL INVITATION TO TENDER No. 1/76

As part of its programme for the construction of 28 integrated plants for the distribution of petroleum products (more fuels, lubricants, LPG, etc. . . .) Alrid invites tenders in connection with the first six plants for the following:

Lot 1—Fuel tanks requiring 2,500 tonnes steel
Lot 2—66 rotary pumps for fuel
Lot 3—150 volumetric metres for fuel

Specialised firms interested in tendering may obtain copies of the specifications for each lot as from the date of publication of this notice from:

La Societe Alrid, 31, Rue Abou Nouas, Hydra (Algiers). Telex: 52 240 DZ.

The offices of Sonatrach:
FRANCE: 105, Avenue Raymond Poincare 75000, Paris
GDR: Maria Pherisi Astrasse 6, Munich, 80.
ITALY: Via Vittor Pisani, 19, 20124 Milan.
SWITZERLAND: 31, Boulevard Helvetique, Geneva 1207.
SPAIN: Gro Via Carlos 3 Sur Edifice Trade 7.0 8 Torre, Bacel A, Bacelona 14.
BELGIUM: 2, Place De l'Albertine, Brussels 1000.
USA: 3419 "R" Street N.W. Washington D.C. 200[illegible]
JAPAN: Algerian Embassy, Sibusawa Building 1-[illegible] 21 Gachishiba Kden Minato Ku, X Tokyo.
GREAT BRITAIN: Algerian Embassy, 6 Hyde Park Gate, London, S.W.7.

Tenders, together with any documenttaion required should be placed in two sealed envelopes with the following written on clearly (which ever applies):
(A ne pas ouvrir, Soumission:

A.O.I. No. 1/76 Lot No. 1—Reservoirs Carburants,
A.O.I. No. 1/76 Lot No 2—Pompes Centrifuges,
A.O.I. No. 1/76 Lot No. 3—Compteurs Volumetriques

and be sent by registered post to the address of Societe Alrid in Algiers to arrive by no later than 30th March 1976.

Bidders shall remain bound by their offers for a period of 120 days.

Any tender which does not comply with the above regulations will not be considered.

S.T.E.G.
INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

The Tunisian Gas and Electricity Company (S.T.E.G.) is launching an international tender notice to place orders for engineering work to be done on a thermoelectric station, with a total power of approximately 300 MW equipped with two identical generator sets, in SOUSSE.

Companies wishing to participate may obtain the tender files directly from the head office of S.T.E.G.:

S.T.E.G.,
Département de l'Equipement,
38 Rue Kemal Ataturk,
Tunis (Tunisia).

or, have them sent to them after payment of one hundred Tunisian Dinars or the equivalent in foreign currency, as of the date of publication of this announcement.

The opening of all offers will take place on April 12th 1976. S.T.E.G. will take into consideration only offers from firms associated with Tunisian companies.

Businesses for Sale

PARTNERS OR SALE. Sale of cash business. £50,000 net profit per annum.—Box 2148 S, The Times.

SMALL COMPANY producing unique para-medical product for sale. £1,500. 01-505 5061, 17, The Pines, Woodford Green, Essex.

Offices

LUXURIOUS SERVICED OFFICES or just prestige business address. Phone, Telex, etc. 150 Regent St., W.1.—Adfone Business Services. Tel. 01-734 9671.

MADDOX ST., W.1. Well positioned south facing furnished office of 210 sq. ft. suitable for a lady as toilet facilities, etc. are shared with another small office. Immediate occupation. Rental only £1,500 p.a. incl. rates. Apply Box 2031 S, The Times.

Commercial Vehicles

BARTER Your Surplus Goods for Holiday of a Lifetime. Luxury yacht and crew for 6 passengers. Business or pleasure. Mediterranean. Absolute confidence assured. Write Box 3149 S, The Times.

Business Notices

LONDON BASED OIL DISTRIBUTOR

with tank haulage operation wishes to discuss sale of part shareholding. Turnover in excess of £ m. Good opportunities for immediate expansion.

Write in confidence to: Box 2046 S, The Times.

IBM ELECTRIC TYPEWRITERS factory reconditioned and guaranteed by IBM. Buy, save up to 50 per cent. Lease 3 years from £2.20 wkly. Rent from £[illegible] month.—Phone Vertex, 641 [illegible]

PARTNERS WANTED for [illegible] able cash business [illegible] or would sell. Phone [illegible] further details 01-437 [illegible]

Business Travel

BUSINESS TRAVEL. [illegible] experts. T.T. 01-[illegible] line Agents) [illegible]

Property

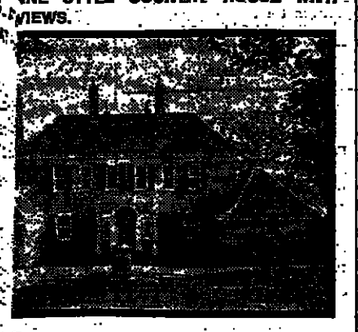
Knight Frank & Rutley

20 Hanover Square London W1R 0AH Tel: 01-629 8171
14 Broad Street Hereford Tel: 0432 3087
8 Charlotte Square Edinburgh Tel: 031-225 7105

RDSHIRE

...nd Hemel Hempstead 1½ miles. Fast ...on.

...NE STYLE COUNTRY HOUSE WITH ...VIEWS.



2 oil 3 2

...atures: Self-contained 2 bedroomed staff ...outbuildings and greenhouse. Paddock.

...ITED IN EXCESS OF £60,000 WITH ...ACRES.

...OFFICE. (Tel: 01-629 8171). (67506/TR)

...ORNWALL

...outh-facing position in rural surroundings ...illage. Launceston 3 miles, Plymouth 27

...TIAL FORMER VICARAGE RECENTLY ...TO HIGH STANDARDS.

3 oil 2

...eatures: Walled gardens and mature ...ig on to lovely open countryside.

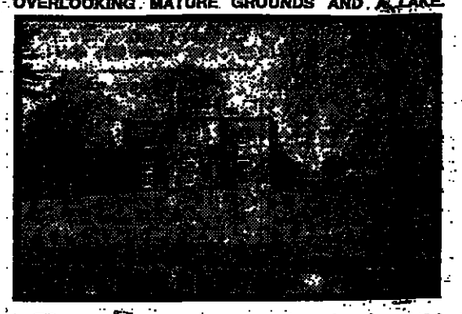
...FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 2.5 ACRES.

...OFFICE. (Tel: 01-629 8171). (67574/PBR)

NORTH WILTSHIRE/ GLOUCESTERSHIRE BORDER

Cirencester 11 miles, Swindon 4 miles, London 82 miles.

A MAGNIFICENT GEORGIAN PROPERTY OVERLOOKING MATURE GROUNDS AND A LAKE.



4 10 3 oil 3 6

Additional features: Staff flat, stocked lake, 2 cottages (1 let), farm buildings for beef and pigs. About 35 acres of pasture surrounding the house and offering block of pasture extending to about 80 acres.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 130 ACRES (AS A WHOLE OR IN 9 LOTS) BY AUCTION ON 15TH MARCH ON THE PROPERTY (Unless previously sold)

Joint Sole Agents: FARRANT & WIGHTMAN, Swindon. (Tel: 0793 33301) and KNIGHT FRANK & RUTLEY, London Office. (Tel: 01-629 8171). (66692/HRC)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Cirencester 11 miles, Oxford 35 miles.

A WELL MODERNISED HOUSE SET HIGH ON THE COTSWOLDS WITH SUPERB VIEWS.

4 7 3 oil 2 H 7 H

Additional features: Paddocks and grounds.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 15 ACRES.

Joint Agents: LEAR & LEAR, Cheltenham. (Tel: 0242 27626) and KNIGHT FRANK & RUTLEY, London Office. (Tel: 01-629 8171). (3521/RG)

T MASKELL & COMPANY

107 Walton Street, London SW3 2HP
01-581 2216

CLOSE TO HYDE PARK, KENSINGTON SW7

A superb 4th floor flat in a quiet and elegant Edwardian mansion block, in excellent order throughout. All the rooms are spacious and well proportioned and the main part of the flat has uninterrupted south-easterly views. 2 large reception rooms, 5 good bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, cloakroom, large kitchen. Lift, central heating, constant hot water. Resident Porter. LEASE 80 YEARS. G.R. PEPPERCORN. PRICE £67,500.

CADOGAN SQUARE SW1

A very spacious ground floor flat. Entrance hall, 2 reception rooms, 3 large bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, cloakroom and kitchen. CHW, Electric heating. Resident Porter. LEASE 48 YEARS. G.R. £85 PER ANNUM. PRICE £47,000.

BRITTEN STREET SW3

A superbly modernised and very pretty period cottage, close to Chelsea Green. Entrance hall, 2 good size reception rooms, 4 bedrooms (1 double and 3 single), bathroom, shower room, modern kitchen and small walled garden. PRICE FREEHOLD £45,000.

LITTLE VENICE W9

A beautifully decorated Garden floor flat with its own entrance and private garden. Entrance hall, reception room, double bedroom, bathroom and modern kitchen. Gas fired central heating and storage vault. LEASE 9 YEARS. RENT £312 p.a. (inclusive of service). PRICE £2,850 (for fixtures, fittings and improvements).

REGENTS PARK

A premier location, adjoining the Park, with
THE MOST IMPRESSIVE VIEWS IN LONDON
over the historic Primrose Hill.
ONE and TWO ROOMED FLATS
Newly modernised behind an elegant facade
LEASES 99 YEARS. £12,500/£24,000
CENTRAL HEATING: LIFTS: PORTERAGE
ALSO: 5/4/5 ROOM UNITS
VIEW TODAY & WEEKDAYS: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
or SUNDAYS: 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Show flat: 62 Ormonde Terrace, N.W.8.

BOURDAS & CO. 723 6611
1 CRAVEN TERRACE W2

Garrard Smith and Partners
493 8121
2 DEANERY ST. W1

MAYFAIR

An attractive purpose built almost fully vacant residential block just off Berkeley Square with 2 tenanted shop units on the ground and flats on seven upper floors.

ALL REALISTIC OFFERS CONSIDERED FOR THE FREEHOLD INTEREST

RES/DCS

Edward Erdman
6 GROSVENOR STREET LONDON W1X 0AD 01-629 8191

...ckson-Stops & Staff

...RZON STREET, LONDON W1Y 7FH (01-499 6291)

...RSHIRE

...Cirencester.

COTTAGE IN DUNTIS... course of Complete... When completed—3/4 Reception, Bath, Cloaks ...ooms. Double Garage. ... Rural situation. South ...ts.

...CESTER OFFICE (0285) Ref. DGA/24713

...EX

...miles.

...E MANOR HOUSE set in ... Entrance Hall, 4 Recep... ...itchen, Playroom, 4 main ... Dressing Room and 2 further Bedrooms and 3rd ...aff Cottage, Outbuildings. ...ming Pool. Hard Tennis ...fully landscaped grounds. ...s. Freehold for sale by

...ESTER OFFICE (0243)

HAMPSHIRE—RIVER HAMBLE

AN IMAGINATIVELY DESIGNED HOUSE overlooking the River Hamble and suitable for the sailing enthusiast. Entrance Hall, Dining Room, Kitchen, First Floor Sitting Room, Study, Shower Room, 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Integral Garage. Gas-fired central heating. Garden with terrace. £27,000.
Apply: CHICHESTER OFFICE (0243) 86316.

KENT—WEST MALLING

RECENTLY CONVERTED OAST HOUSE in rural situation. Hall, Cloakroom, 3 Reception Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Utility Room, Playroom. Garage. Oil-fired central heating. Garden ¼ Acre.

HERTFORDSHIRE

Baldock Market Town Centre.

7 FLATS in unique period Mansion House all with electric heating. From £6,800-£10,500 for leasehold interest.
Apply: LONDON OFFICE. Tel: 01-499 6291.

CHESTER YORK NORTHAMPTON NEWMARKET YEOVIL ...TER CHICHESTER MIDHURST CHIPPING CAMPDEN

London Flats

Chelsea

...oporary style ... c.h., large ...ng river, 2 ... luxury fitted ... £58,500.

S.W.1

...round floor ...superb univer... h., 4 beds., ... Leasehold.

...lare, W.8

...tionally well ...tastefully ...hour. c.h., ...beds, dress ...closets, sal... rear garden, ...0.

D & CO.

...91

...AIR

...idence photo... ...grounds, 5-6 ...ception, patio, ...

...R. £200 p.a.

...& CO.

...1273.

...TREET, W.1

...fourth-floor ...lusive modern ...ms, bathroom, ...kitchen, cloak... ...R.W., lift. ...phone: lease: ...G.R., £100 ...: £36,000, to

...MAN & CO., ...t, W1X 0AD ...8191

...off Grosvenor ...nal value. 2 spa... 4 bedrooms, 2 ...receptions. Need ...1,000. 31-year ...und rent. Wink... ...48 Curzon St.,

...floor flat in con... ...L., recept., kit., ...c.h., 99 years. ...Bates & Co., 493

TREATHAM, Pmt.

...d floor flat (with ...from 1st floor ...s, lounge, dining ... bathroom/w.c., ...good garden. Rare ...ll front garden, ...old. Andrews & ...26 3077.

...udio flat, modern ...n, bedroom, din... ...ng lease, £12,500 ...55, evenings, ...6907.

...maisonette, ...baths., 2 reception ...43ft. kitchen, ...lease for sale. ...C. & C., f. & r. ...& Lyons, 01-235

...Modern first floor ...bathroom, kitchen, ...Lease 75 years. ...Douglas Lyons & ...7955.

PUTNEY SW15

CARLTON DRIVE

Spacious, elegant, ground-floor flat, ideal executive or diplomat.
Five mins. East Putney Station and shops.
Beautiful lounge 22ft. 6in. x 14ft. 9in., excellent entertaining, dining room, master bedroom, double bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, cloakroom/w.c.; gas c.h., heated linen closet; Yarnham window locks; lockable garage; well-maintained lawn front and rear; carpets and fittings negotiable.

£21,750 LEASEHOLD

INTERESTED QUICK SALE

Telephone: 01-789 2555 NOW

MANOR FIELDS. PUTNEY HILL

Excellent 1st Floor Flat in this well-known block overlooking Putney Heath. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, shower room, double reception rooms, well-fitted kitchen. Lift. C.H. Porterage. Lease 92 years. Price: £29,500, to include carpets, kitchen equipment, etc.

BARRODS ESTATE OFFICES, 1 Hans Road, SW3 1RZ. Tel. 01-589 1490.

KENSINGTON

A light and extremely spacious fifth floor flat with panoramic views, in a well maintained mansion block. 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, kitchen, cloakroom, C.H.W. Porterage. Lease: 61 years approximately G.R.: £75 p.a. excl. Price: £62,500 to incl. c.c.f. and f.

EDWARD ERDMAN & CO. 6 Grosvenor St., W1X 0AD 01-629 8191

WESTMINSTER

A light and spacious third floor flat in a mansion block. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, reception room, kitchen, balcony. Part c.h., c.h.w. Lifts. Porterage. Entryphone. Lease: 99 years approx. G.R. £130 p.a. excl. Price: £24,250.

EDWARD ERDMAN & CO. 6 Grosvenor St., W1X 0AD 01-629 8191

THE WATER GARDENS. Luxurious fully furnished 2-bedroomed flat, views across London. Lease to March '78 at £2,063 p.a. excl. £25,000 incl. all furniture. Winkworth & Co., 48 Curzon St., W.1. 499 5131.

CLOSE TO SLOANE SQUARE. Pied-a-terre in excellent decorative order, in modern purpose built block. Bedroom, recept., well equipped kitchenette, bath, c.h. c.h.w., lift, porterage. Low outgoings (service charge £150 p.a.) Lease 91 years, £15,950. G. Minter & Co. 235 2833.

OFF SLOANE AVENUE. Split-level purpose-built flat comprising 2 bedrooms, bathroom, sep. w.c., L-shaped lounge/dining room, partly fitted kitchen: c.h. Garage space available. Parkings, patio. Owner willing to redecorate. £32,000, 54-year lease. Telephone day 499 0145: evenings 689 3198.

VIEW TONIGHT

5.30 p.m.—7.30 p.m.

27/29 Hornton Street W.8.

Situated on Campden Hill close to Kensington High St. is this superb development of one, two and three bedroomed apartments. They have been finished to an exceptional standard throughout.

- Quality kitchen and bathroom fittings
- Passenger lift
- Penthouses with terraces
- Individual central heating by gas boiler and radiators
- Underlay
- 125 year leases with nominal ground rents.

Prices £16,950-£39,500

Buckingham Properties Ltd 170 Finchley Rd. London. N.W.3.

WINKWORTH & CO.,

389 Brompton Rd. London. S.W.3. 5DY 01-584 8865

ROLAND GARDENS, S.W.7

New development of luxury flats, modernised to a high standard. C.H., c.h.w. Selection: 2 rms., k. & b. from £16,500. 4 rms., 2 bth. (1 en suite), kitchen and service from £29,000. Leases 125 yrs. Low outgoings.
FARLEY & CO., 44/46 Brompton Rd., S.W.3. 01-584 6491.

BELGRAVIA

Attractive maisonette — ideal for young family. 2 double bedrooms, large 25ft. reception room—excellent entertaining. Kitchen and bathroom: paved garden, also studio/playroom. Carpets, curtains and fittings included—

£27,000 negotiable.
Telephone Windsor 64843 now

REGENT'S PARK, N.W.1.

5 bedroomed flats, luxury mansion block. Fully carpeted, central heating, double glazing, now kitchen, 2 bathrooms. 120-year lease, £35,000. Tel.: 01-402 7146. Open to view daily. (Portman Estates).

MARBLE ARCH.

Well-appointed flat, 1 recept., 1 bed., c.h., fitted carpets. Long lease. £18,500. Shepherds 01-499 0371.

N.W.3.—Interior designed ground floor flat fitted to highest standard with 24ft reception room on 2 levels. Spot lighting. Hygena kitchen complete, galleried bedroom and bathroom en suite, fully fitted, fitted carpets, curtains, etc. 20 year lease, low outgoings. £12,750. Woodcocks. 01-794 4351.

CAMDEN PASSAGE, N.1.—Superb newly-built apartments located among the picturesque and antiques of Camden Passage. Reception, kit & bath: from £15,500. 2 beds, 1 recpt, kit & bath: from £17,500. Gas C.H. Leases 125 years.—Masson Welby. 226 0278.

MARBLE ARCH.—Magnificent fifth floor flat in mod. block with great appeal. 2 beds, 2 baths, sauna, dressing room/shower, 2 mod. kit. C.H. C.H.W. Lift, porters. Lease 125 yrs. £55,000.—Anscombe & Ringland. 499 0912.

AUCTION

(unless previously sold)

PENTHOUSE ALBION GATE, W.2

Spacious flat in popular block, magnificent panoramic views over Hyde Park.
Large private roof terrace
3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception, kitchen.
Staff: Bedroom, sitting room, bathroom.
Lse. 59 yrs. G.R. £50 p.a.

BLAKE & CO.
4 Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1.
Tel: 01-434 1273 (5 lines)

KENSINGTON & CHELSEA

CPK Construction are offering 1, 2, 3 & 4 bed flats in Cresswell Gardens, Harcourt Terrace, Redcliffe Square, Westgate Terrace and Ifield Road. The flats are radically converted to very high specifications.

1 bed: £12,500 to £16,600
2 bed: £17,500 to £23,900
3 bed: £20,500 to £28,900
4 bed: £29,500

For long leases 01-584 8517

CPK

GROSVENOR SQUARE

A superb third-floor flat in a prestige luxury block: 4 main bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms (all intercommunicating), dressing room, cloakroom, 2 kitchens. 2 staff rooms, double garage. C.H., C.H.W. lifts, 24-hr. uniformed porterage; lease: 83 yrs. approx.; G.R. £220 p.a. excl.; a substantial price is being quoted for this valuable interest.

EDWARD ERDMAN & CO. 6 Grosvenor St. W1X 0AD 01-629 8191

REGENT'S PARK

Luxury modern flat on park and Tube, recently redecorated: 8-year lease; 2 bedrooms, fitted cupboards, 2 bathrooms (1 en suite), L-shaped dining/living room, compact fitted kitchen, fridge, cooker, waste disposal; central heating throughout; service: garage space. Rent £1,400 p.a. Price to include fitted carpets and curtains, light fittings, £6,950.
Ring 01-387 4745

MAYFAIR

An elegant fourth floor flat in a prestige modern block, with views over Berkeley Square. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, study, kitchen, cloakroom, ind. c.h., c.h.w., lift. Entryphone. Lease up to 15 years. Rent: £7,250 p.a. excl. (may be reviewed every 3 years). Price: £24,500 incl. c.c.f. and f.

EDWARD ERDMAN & CO. 6 Grosvenor St. W1X 0AD 01-629 8191.

WHITEHALL

Bright 4th floor flat in famous block, offering full services. Hall 3 bedrooms, double reception, kitchen, bath. Lease 65 years.

BLAKE & CO.
01-434 1273.

WANDSWORTH COMMON. — Exceptionally modernized and extended 1/2 bedroomed flat. Lease 99 years. £9,500.—Telephone 543 9188, evenings.

Overseas Property

CYPRUS.—Super villas and village conversions. Limassol Paphos.—Before the next Boom, write Boadicea, 16 Thackeray Street, London W8 5EP.

Country Flats

UNUSUAL attic flat in Victorian manor, surrounded by country. 2 beds., kitchen, bathroom and large living area, garage. Rail commuter service. Pangbourne 1½ miles. Reading 6 miles. M4 2 miles. £16,500.—Telephone Pangbourne 3180.

Country property

Humbert, Flint, Rawlence & Squarey

WILTS/DORSET BORDERS

Commanding panoramic views. A FINE TUDOR RESIDENCE of immense charm and character (formerly a Rectory). Hall, cloakroom, 3 receptions, kitchen, breakfast room, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, part c.h., double garage, store and loose box. Garden and paddocks about 2¼ ACRES.

Offers invited for the freehold.

Details from:
49 Castle Street, Salisbury. Tel: 0722 24422.

WILTS

Magnificent 5 bedroom spacious detached freehold residence. Situated at Badbury, Wilts, about 3 miles from Swindon and only 1 mile from M4 interchange. Offers superb accommodation of extremely high standard. There is also a magnificent terrace surrounded by Spanish walling and incorporating heated swimming pool. Standing in about half acre of split level gardens; with panoramic downland views front & back. Double garage plus ample parking for 6-8 cars. This is a genuine sale. 1st buyer to see will buy. £50,000 or nearest offer.
Tel. Chiseldon (Wilts) 740 203.

9 MILES WEST OF OXFORD

VILLAGE, YET OPEN VIEWS. London 1½ hours via M40. Pleasant late Regency house, 5 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc. c.h., double garage, sibling. Large established garden, 2 acre paddock. £48,000 freehold for quick sale.
Tel. Longworth (0865) 820215 anytime

SOUTH NORFOLK

Unique opportunity to acquire a spacious modern detached residence in completely secluded position in the midst of rural countryside. Lounge, dining room, 4 bedrooms, k. and b. cloakroom, double garage, full c.h. Large disused outbuildings, 1 acre in all.

£21,500
QUIDENHAM 494.

HADLOW DOWN, EAST SUSSEX 25 miles Hatton-Victoria. In beautiful country setting, architect converted house with magnificent views. 1st floor: drawing room, 30ft. x 18ft., 3/4 bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, shower room. Oil central heating. 2 acre garden. £27,750. Braxton Watson and Company. Uckfield 3344.

London & Suburban property

EALING COMMON.—Quiet flat, 3 rooms, gas c.h., freehold, £12,950. Tel. 727 9127, 10-5.

S. KENSINGTON.—Contemporary, small house, 2 bedrooms, open plan living room with spiral staircase featured in House and Garden. Lease 39 years. G.R., £10. Price. £34,500. Dodd. 01-370 4011.

HAMPSTEAD. Valuable Victorian in the Village! A terraced home with a warm and cosy atmosphere, 4 beds, 3 recepts., kit., 1½ baths, walled garden. Freehold £32,500. Benham & Reeves. 01-435 9822.

FULHAM, S.W.6. — Luxuriously modernized family house on Peterborough Estate: 5 beds., recpt. 25ft. x 16ft., kit./dining room, bathroom, sauna, gas c.h., garden. £38,000.—Wilsons. 767 6161.

HURLINGHAM, SW6.—Modernized family house. 5 beds., 1 recept., kit./dining room, c.h., sdn., £36,500 Freehold. Andrew Mullon & Co., 767 0075.

WILL EXCHANGE charming Georgian terraced house Central London for large secluded country house, condition immaterial.—Offers to Miss M. Morris, 31 Jeffreys St., N.W.1.

MILL HILL. Rare winding country lane to the brow of a hill with 2 acres of park-like wooded grounds surrounded by and overlooking 1000's of acres of green-belt and aerial views over London Airport result in the most exclusive and inspiring havens in the whole of London. Built by a famous firm of Master Builders it features an Inca-style motif which is also echoed throughout the interior design magnificent entertaining/dining hall, 3 other superlative recepts., sumptuous kitchen, 5 beds., dressing room, 2 bathrs. (one en-suite), sun roof. Lge. Garage. Freehold. £289,500. Benham & Reeves, 01-455 9822.

CHELSEA. Interior designer's home in quiet terrace, beautifully presented and immaculate throughout. 3 beds, dressing room, 2 baths, sep. w.c., recept., dining room. Amazing 24ft. kit./breakfast room. Best detail. Freehold £90,000. Anscombe & Ringland, 499 0912.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD, N.W.8 Few yards Park and Primrose Hill. Comfortable well planned FLAT. FIFTH FLOOR in quiet position. 2 Bedrooms, Bathroom. Living Room. Kitchen. Cloakroom, etc. Lease: 62 years app. Ground Rent: £90 per annum. Low Service Charge. Central Heating. Hot Water. Lifts. Parterage, etc. Price: £27,000. Recommended. Ref. FWT.

HAMPSTEAD, N.W.3 Modern family HOUSE arranged TWO FLOORS ONLY. Easy reach of Heath. 3/4 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Cloakroom, flat garden, Garage. Central Heating. FREEHOLD. £53,000 inc. carpets. Ref: FWT.

FOLKARD & HAYWARD 01-935 7798

SUPERB CORNER TOWN HOUSE

Queensmead
St. John's Wood Park

Drawing room, dining room, 4 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fitted kitchen, downstairs cloakroom. Oil-fired central heating. Patio and garden, garage.

Near bus route and Underground yet very peaceful with beautiful views of trees and gardens. Leasehold, 86 years approximately.

£55,000

Ring now 01-586 0210

CLAPHAM COMMON S.W.11

Superb Victorian house only 200 yards off Common, maintained in very good condition throughout; featuring new tiled roof, entrance hall, elegant 27ft. drawing room, spacious 20ft. kitchen, 4/5 bedrooms, bathroom + sep. w.c.; 85ft. garden; only £19,000 F/H.

Choice of similar property at £17,500 F/H. featuring full gas C.H.

R. BARCLAY & CO. 228 6588

HALLAM MEWS, W1

A delightful detached mews house in an extremely central position. 3/4 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, 1/2 Reception Rooms. Kitchen/Breakfast Room. Large Double Garage. Extensive cellar storage. Gas Fired C.H. Domestic Hot Water. Lease: 97 yrs. approx. G.R. £100 p.a. excl. Price: £59,500.

EDWARD ERDMAN & CO. 6 Grosvenor St., W1X 0AD. 01-629 8191.

FLOATING HOME HAMMERSMITH

fully equipped, residential and cruising home. Traditional Dutch 45ft. steel barge, with large open deck, extensively used in Europe. Fully converted as flat. Diesel engine. c.h., water, electricity, phone laid on. Sleeps up to 8.

£9,850

01-741 0218 evening.

LORD NAPIER PLACE, Upper Mall, W.6. First time on the market. Outstanding town house. 5's years old, situated in quiet square by river. 3 large reception rooms, 3 bedrooms with fitted wardrobes, cloakroom, utility room, spacious kitchen with Wrighton fitted units, bathroom, garage, small garden. c.h. 116 year lease. £29,500.—Telephone 01-403 5001 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. or 01-748 0539 after 7 p.m.

PRIMROSE HILL. An exciting concept in modern design dramatically illustrated by this super luxury Patio home on the fashionable Chalcots Park development. 4 sat double recept., featuring spiral staircase, fabulous kitchen, 3 beds, 2 baths, c.h., garden, carport. £59,950. Benham & Reeves. 01-435 9822.

HOUSEBOAT at Hampton Court.—See Yachts and Boats.

PROPERTY WANTED

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER and wife seek rural country cottage in Surrey. 2-3 bedrooms. From mid-March for 6 months-1 year.—Epsom (78) 25510.

WIMBLEDON VILLAGE. — Wanted good small house or flat. 2/4 beds. 946 9681, or write Box 09088, The Times.

DOCTOR urgently requires pleasant small house in Hampstead or suburb: cash available for early settlement.—Telephone: 01-794 1151. Woodcocks.

GARAGE required in W.1. To take Rolls, please phone 01-935 6334 or 6571.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments also on page 26

NON-SECRETARIAL

THE BRITISH COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

EDUCATION AND SCIENCE DIVISION

An opportunity for someone in their twenties with a background of higher education and some office experience to join our expanding Education and Science Division as assistant to two specialist officers.

You will be working on educational projects for the developing world and will undertake a wide range of clerical duties including compiling progress reports, taking minutes of meetings, assisting with editorial work and dealing with telephone enquiries. Ability to type is desirable, but flexibility and common sense are more important.

Starting salary £2,340 at 22 or over, rising on a Civil Service scale.

For further particulars and application form write or telephone quoting H/6 to: Staff Recruitment Department, THE BRITISH COUNCIL, 65 Davies Street, London W1Y 2AA.

Telephone: 01-499 8011, extension 123.

PUBLICITY CO-ORDINATOR

INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY CONSULTANTS, W.C.2, urgently require a Publicity Co-ordinator to co-ordinate day-to-day and corporate advertising campaigns and the production of all promotional literature in conjunction with firm's house designer; to compile press releases and co-ordinate P.R.

Work also involves the control of advertising budgets and necessitates constant liaison with group's international officers. Knowledge of typing essential. Good negotiable salary.

APPLY IN WRITING TO S. K. KNOWLES
WEATHERALL GREEN & SMITH
22 CHANCERY LANE, W.C.2.

NURSING OFFICER

Simpson (Piccadilly) Limited

require a Nursing Officer to take charge of the Clinic, which provides a health and welfare service to staff employed by the company. Applicants should have SRN qualification and Occupational Health Nursing experience would be an advantage.

We offer excellent conditions of employment and salary according to the Royal College of Nursing Scales.

Applications in writing giving details of education, training and experience should be sent to:—

The Personnel Executive
Simpson (Piccadilly) Limited
34 Jermyn Street, London, S.W.1.

BROWNS

require a person with fashion experience and an outstanding personality to manage their NEW SLOANE ST. STORE. The successful applicant will command a high salary and should have organising ability, be capable of staff management and able to deal with an international clientele. Excellent fringe benefits.

Please telephone 491 7833 for appointment.

ACCOUNTS CLERK

£2,700

Age immaterial, for friendly medium sized Company.

Some accounts or clerical background (not necessarily to T.B.).

Phone Terry Becket on 439 8301.

STAFF RESERVES

STRIKE ONE

We are London's largest antique clock shop. We are looking for someone with initiative and personality to take full control of the shop. They will be able to sell, organize, type and keep simple books.
Salary negotiable.
Applications in writing, please, to:—
Strike One Ltd.
1a Camden Walk, London, N.1

YOUR NAME DOES NOT HAVE TO BE MARY

but you must be an experienced Cordon Bleu Cook, if you would like to join an English family opening the small exclusive Monastery Hotel in Kinsale, Co. Cork, on 1st April, 1976.

PLEASE WRITE OR TELEPHONE CORK 72634

RECEPTIONIST/ TELEPHONIST/TYPIST

Bright intelligent person, preferably 25 plus, with experience for new offices in Soho Sq., W.1. of Association of British Travel Agents. Salary up to £2,500 p.a. Plus L.V.S. Phone Mrs. Cooper. 637 1680.

BI-LINGUAL?

Helicopter company situated Belgravia requires resourceful and self-reliant person to handle all aspects of helicopter spares, own typing/telex. Good knowledge of importing, exporting, invoicing and fluent use of German language essential.

Salary £2,850.

Box 2294 S, The Times.

BOOKKEEPER £3,000 + BONUS + free lunch, free BUPA and non-contributory pension. Very experienced person, able to maintain books up to trial balance for travel company. RAND 589 4345.

RECEPTIONIST for Ad. Agency, £2,200.—Jaygar Careers, 730 5148.

THEATRE SISTER required for The Welbeck Street Nursing Home. Please telephone 01-486 6800).

HEAD COOK for Home from Hotel, Wilmington, nr. Honiton, Devon. Commence Feb. 12th. Preference Carrion diet or similar trained. Excellent salary and conditions. Tel.: M. Creston, Wilmington 278.

ECONOMIST £4,000-£5,000

to join major international company offering career opportunities to Economic or Econometric Graduates followed by two years business experience. To work on corporate strategy, industry structure and planning diversification.

Telephone Anna Moffatt on 01-584 3615

GRADUATE GIRLS & GRADUATE MEN

FURNISHED FLATS NEGOTIATOR

Experienced in Central London houses and flats, required by active Kensington Estate Agents. Excellent opportunity for right person.

01-584 9821

TRAINEE NEGOTIATOR

£3,000 plus p.a.

Young, lively, Chelsea Estate Agents need Trainee Negotiator (aged 20-30) with typing ability. Salary plus commission expected to be in the region of £3,000 per annum.

Ring Annie, 01-351 0077.

ASSISTANT FOR PA

£35 plus BONUSES

Fashion company Kensington. Charming, busy P/A needs lively, intelligent young assistant to help with telephone calls and general office duties. Typing preferred. Please call Personnel Dept. 01-499 7446.

HOUSING OFFICER to implement policy and recommendations of Working Party on Housing for Disabled people. Experience in housing field desirable, but not essential. Salary: AP Grade 2/3. Details from Director, Central Council for the Disabled, 34 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

ASSISTANT EDITOR, 23/35, with experience of production and subediting, plus administrative ability, for leading Publishers. Good knowledge of food and wines essential. Some typing ability. Salary circa £5,250 plus N.V.S. Ring Peter Holwill, 947 1954, Watton Staff Consultants.

FIRST CLASS Space Representatives or similar, £3,600 plus commission.—See Sales & Marketing Appts.

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST required for West End practice.—580 8974. Day time.

PHOTOGRAPHIC AGENCY W.1. needs Recp./Typist to keep 6 Consultants happy. 434 1821.

GLYNDEBOURNE.—Library Assistant musician wanted. Knowledge of plt. layout an advantage. Apply Music Librarian, Glyndebourne Opera, Lewes, Sussex.

Information Officer

required to run a small unit providing information for the advertisement sales force of a major regional newspaper and magazine group. Experience in using media information is essential and experience in an Advertising Agency, Newspaper or Magazine publishing is desirable.

SALARY £3,000 PLUS

Phone or write to Mrs. A. Boulting, Group Marketing Department, UNITED NEWSPAPERS, 23/27 Tudor St., E.C.4. 01-583 9199. Ext. 412.

PARFUMS HERMES CONSULTANT

In order to cover our promotions in Department Stores within the London area we require, free to start March 1976, a well-presented, experienced and stable Consultant, to be permanently employed by us. Age over 25 and must have had a certain amount of experience in the French perfumery market. Good basic salary plus commission.

PLEASE RING RE APPOINTMENT, 01-992 6838.

NON-SECRETARIAL

INFORMATION OFFICER

Required to undertake duties in connection with the provision of hospital services including project information, correspondence and telephone queries, production of news letters, press inquiries and preparation of surveys. Applicants should have good experience of office systems and must be able to work without supervision. A background in the health or hospital fields or as a librarian would be useful.
Starting salary in the region £2,400-£2,800 p.a. depending on experience. Pleasant working conditions. 5½ weeks' holiday. Location Central London, close to District and Circle Lines and Southern Region termini.
Apply to Mrs. I. A. Cain, NUFFIELD NURSING HOMES TRUST, 15-17 Essex Street, London WC2. Tel.: 01-353 9451.

FIGURE CONSCIOUS

Job 1:- Advertising Agency in W.1 need an accounts supervisor 26 +. Must have a good accounting background with experience of commercial accounts in the advertising field. Salary £3,000.

Job 2: Off Co. in W.1 needs an accounts clerk 21 +. Must have I.C.M.A. Part II qualification. Good opportunity to develop a career within a fast growing company. Salary £3,200 +, excellent perks.

Call Christine Watson, 836 4757.

M. & J. PERSONNEL

ARABIC

Are you looking for varied, interesting and demanding work with executive world travel, especially in Middle East, for which spoken Arabic is essential.
We are a small marketing-orientated company and need a responsible, unattached, career-minded person to assist our Managing Director to expand our Company internationally.
Salary up to £5,000, depending on personality, intelligence and experience.

Phone soonest
Mr. Haviland-Nye
01-242 5538

BE YOUR OWN BOSS WALK TALL IN '76 DO IT YOUR WAY

Very attractive, presentable sales woman/man, 18-30, required to join very successful friendly sales team. Full or part-time, no franchise involved, commission only. Highly rewarding, interesting work, marketing wide variety of products from fancy goods to light machinery. Car an advantage. Experience not necessary, training will be given if you have the personality, self-confidence, and discipline required to be your own boss.
Ring Mr Phillips, 01-730 4203 between 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

TOP INTERVIEWER

With dynamism and ambition who can really sell, needed for fast growing international staff consultancy.

If you are interested in people and can handle all types of office vacancies, 'phone Ann Petrie now on 629 5843.

SECRETARIAL

LEADING LONDON LITERARY AGENT

needs energetic PA/Secretary interested in books and keen to take on increasing responsibility. Cheerful office. Competitive salary.
Write or ring Hilary Rubinstein, A. P. Watt, 26/28 Bedford Row, W.C.1.

01-405 1057

WEST END WONDER

Euro Boss Man of U.S. Co. in W.1. seeks genuine PA/Super Sec. Must have drive, confidence, also good secretarial skills as the applicant will be involved in the setting up of the company in their new office. £5,000. Phone Molly Devoy/Chris Pickering.

ALFRED MARKS BUREAU 486 1576

Tempting Times

Phone Today and Work on Monday

Victoria Agency have the best shorthand and audio jobs in S.W.1. If you want temporary work—don't delay—come in and find out about our special bonus scheme for Temps.

VICTORIA AGENCY, 1 Strutton Ground, S.W.1. 01-799 4161.

STELLA FISHER IN THE STRAND

Contented Temps. — Secretaries, Shorthand, Audio, Copy Typists. Join us long-term or bridge the "earnings-gap". We help you to settle permanently.
STELLA FISHER BUREAU, 110/111 Strand, W.C.2. 01-836 6644
(opposite Strand Palace Hotel)
Also open Saturday mornings 10 a.m.-12.30 p.m.

TEMPS

Have you solid office experience in any field? Secretarial, bookkeeping, research or admin.
If so, come in and we will try and find you work.

Ring Joy or Ruth on 01-584 3615

GRADUATE GIRLS & GRADUATE MEN

A GOOD SEASON AT COVENT GARDEN!

Gala Bookings at Covent Garden offer Talented Temps good rates, choice of areas, and appreciative employers who know that all the best Temps enjoy their work through us.

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU 55 Fleet St., E.C.4 01-353 7696

INTELLIGENT TEMPS with or without languages. Use your brains as well as your skills. We have good rates for director-level assignments in both West End and City.—Please ring Career Girl, West End Office, 493 8982, or City office, 623 6083.

FRIENDLY, RELIABLE Temps with good speeds (shorthand and copy) for long term assignments in—work with a friendly agency for good rates. Call Jane Croslin-Walle Recruitment, 24 Beauchamp Place, S.W.3. 581 2977.

TEMPS ! ! TEMPS ! ! TEMPS ! ! The Agency that really looks after you—and has work for you—start Monday—call Friday, is LONDON TOWN BUREAU. Phone 836 1294.

YOUNG PEOPLE with and without typing for temporary work in hospitals, broadcasting, airlines, cities, etc. Pierre Prospect Temps, 629 1251 (2210).

£1.50 P.H. to all our Temps. They are capable charming and [illegible] Temps. If you are too, ring Career Girl, [illegible] 4221.

AUDIO. Earn £85.00 p.w. for [illegible] term assignment. Call [illegible] Office Overload.

SECRETARY. Earn £40 p.w. for [illegible] Co. Call [illegible] Office Overload.

COPY TYPIST. Earn £44.00 p.w. for Printing Co. in W.2 end. Call 404 5272, Office Overload.

£1.57 p.h. for good IBM Figure Typist. Fulham. 736 8388.

TEMP. Sec for SW1 cosmetics co. Jaygar Careers, 730 5148.

TEMP telephonist, immediate start. Jaygar Careers, 730 5148.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments also on page 25

SECRETARIAL

ADMIN ASSISTANT—FINANCE

Reuters, the world's news organisation, requires an Administrative Assistant to work for the Financial Manager—Corporate Financial Development.

The post requires the person with good shorthand and typing speeds and preferably some practical bookkeeping experience. The successful applicant will provide a complete secretarial service to the Corporate Financial Development section and will also carry out routine administrative, accounting and clerical work.

Initial earnings will be £2,832 p.a., rising to £3,112 p.a. on successful completion of a three-month probationary period. Hours of work 9.30-5.30.

PLEASE TELEPHONE MRS. J. LAWTON ON 01-353 6060 EXT. 262.

ARTS COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN

SECRETARY/ASSISTANT RESEARCH AND INFORMATION

An experienced Secretary is required to work for the Senior Research and Information Officer and the Research Officer. Apart from normal secretarial duties the successful candidate will be helping to collect, check and tabulate audience and box office returns, and may be expected to assist in the preparation and distribution of research reports and other publications.

Salary around £2,500 p.a. with possible allowances of up to £356 p.a., for good shorthand and typing speeds. Write with full details plus day time telephone number to:

The Establishment Officer
105 Piccadilly London W1V 0AU
to arrive by Friday, 13th February.

YOUNG SECRETARY

City

£3,850 + Bonus scheme

A well known American organization seeks an intelligent and presentable Secretary, aged 23-25, for their office in the City. You will work in a prestigious suite where nearly everyone is under 30, and your duties will include general correspondence and as much P.A. work as you can handle. We therefore seek someone who enjoys working in a relaxed and friendly environment and who likes responsibility. Fringe benefits include bonus, mortgage and season ticket scheme, L.V.s and lunch cash allowance. For further details phone Ian James. 584 8352.

CRIPPS SEARS AND ASSOCS. (Consultants)

A VITAL LINK IS NEEDED

to complete our team. We are a Children's Charity with small offices in Fulham and urgently need a well organized Secretary with good shorthand/typing who can work on own initiative.

The position would suit someone who enjoys involvement, has a pleasant telephone manner and who would be interested in the functions of the charity. Flexible hours; 5 weeks holiday; salary around £2,300 negotiable.

Please telephone: MRS. DUNN on 01-381 0356 for further details.

SUPER SEC. WANTED. Baker St. area. Good shorthand and typing plus sense of humour. Age immaterial. Salary £3,000. 486 4993.

BRUXELLES. English Secretary 25+ for one of our favourite clients. £5,000. Ring sSs 493 3321.

WINE IMPORTERS and Exporters seek Sec./P.A. for a Director. You will deal with Trade Functions, help import wines from Europe and work from a delightful old Georgian house. £2,600. —Rin" Bond St. Bureau, 629 0641.

SECRETARIAL

A NEW APPOINTMENT—VARIED AND INTERESTING DUTIES WITH THE OPPORTUNITY OF GAINING ACCOUNTING EXPERIENCE

SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT

TO PRESIDENT/FINANCIAL REPRESENTATIVE

LONDON, E.C.1. £3,000-£3,300

MAJOR INTERNATIONAL COMPANY

The recently opened London liason office of a long established Japanese company is looking for a well educated and intelligent Secretary/Personal Assistant, aged from 25 to 40, to work for the Financial Representative in Europe. Five years' secretarial experience together with a fundamental knowledge of accounting is essential, as is the ability to work on their own initiative during the frequent periods of travel of the Financial Representative (who is also President of two European subsidiaries).

Duties will include making travel arrangements and hotel bookings, keeping up-to-date records of the British and the European operations, and daily selection and distribution of relevant information and news to the subsidiary offices in Europe. French and/or Portuguese would be an advantage though they are not essential.

Applications in strict confidence to The Managing Director. Ref SPA 416/TT.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LIMITED, KNIGHTSBRIDGE OFFICE, 69 KNIGHTSBRIDGE, LONDON, S.W.1 OR TELEPHONE 01-235 3203/05/04

CONFESSIONS OF A SECRETARY

PART ONE

Having finished the Italian job, I went round the world in 80 days, met the Countess from Hong Kong in Chinatown, dined with an American in Paris, even avoided an earthquake on the road to Bali. Now I'm back in London: Help! I thought. I need a fistful of dollars. So I joined Churchill Personnel.

They found me a Temporary job straight away. Maybe they could help you. Why not ring Susan Naunton on 821 7401 and find out?

SOCIAL SECRETARY IN W.1. ADVERTISING COMPANY

The Secretary to two Sales Executives and spend your hectic day arranging and attending social functions, presentations, lunches and dealing with other ad. agencies, liaising with clients. All this plus a neg. salary.

Call Sandra Gibbons 743 0911
DRAKE PERSONNEL
225 Regent St., W1

WELL ORGANIZED SECRETARY interested in antiques needed to administer small advertisement department of glossy magazine. Lots of involvement opportunity for good-natured all-rounder willing to do everything from coffee-making, through simple figure work, to helping to sell advertisement space. Ring Beverlie Flower on 834 2331.

PART-TIME CLERK Typist, for West End office. Tel: 01-499 5637/8 or 499 8772.

MEDICAL DEFENCE ORGANIZATION requires

SECRETARY

Shorthand/Audio typist to work for doctor, 25 to 35. Excellent salary, luncheon vouchers, 3 weeks' holiday. Pension scheme. Hours 9.15 to 5.15. Please telephone Miss Wilson.

01-486 6181

Join Senior Director at around £3,000

Excellent opportunity for an experienced Secretary with good skills, organised mind and friendly personality, able to give first-class assistance and look after V.I.P. clients. Responsible and interesting position alongside a charming, busy director who heads an important group within a renowned company. Top conditions and benefits.—Ring Miss Kaye, CHALLONERS, 116 Newgate St., E.C.1. 606 3924.

SECRETARY

MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT

Good education, sec. skill and personality required, to deal with top Personnel and confidential work, in the West End. Very pleasant atmosphere. Aged 25 plus. Salary to £3,750 plus super benefits.

BERNADETTE OF BOND ST. No 55, next door to Fenwicks 01-629 5669.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE OIL CO. seeks intelligent, personable Sec. for Director. To £5,000.—Jaygar Careers, 730 5148.

SECRETARIAL

SEKRETAERIN

erfahrene, ältere, zuverlässige Dame, perfekt in deutsch und englisch, Wohnsitz in London oder nächster Umgebung, von Finanzkaufmann gegen sehr gute Bezahlung gesucht. Zuschriften mit Lebenslauf und Foto mit Angabe der Privattelefonnummer unter Chiffre an Box 2481 S, The Times.

INNER LONDON EDUCATION AUTHORITY

PERSONAL ASSISTANT AND SECRETARY

to the Principal required at Camberwell School of Art and Crafts, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UT. The position offers scope for initiative and demands intelligence, tact and discretion. Secretarial experience and good shorthand and typing ability are essential.

Salary according to age, qualifications and experience, but not less than £2,453 at age 21 with 5 appropriate 'O' levels.

Further particulars and application forms, obtainable from the:

Senior Administrative Officer at the School.
(Tel: 705 0987)

sSs

HEART SHAPED ROUND OR OVAL

MAYBE WITH GOLD FITTINGS for a Frenchman, German or an Arab—the British can't afford it! If you would like to work as a P.A./Secretary at £2,750-£3,000 for the M.D. of the company which exports these luxurious products all over the world ring:
SENIOR STAFF SELECTION
01-493 5521

sSs

£2,500 CRAZY TEAM of conference equipment designers need a bright young Secretary, able to work under pressure, and occasional long hours.—Career Plan 734 4284.

SECRETARY TO SOLICITOR

Enfield c £2,500+bonus

A large firm of solicitors seeks an experienced legal secretary for its branch at Enfield.

An interesting post—working for one Solicitor—involving full secretarial duties and contact with clients. Applicants should be well educated, personable and capable of using own initiative. Shorthand and audio experience necessary.

Please telephone, in confidence, quoting ref S26, to:—

Douglas Atkins.
BECKWELL STAFF SEARCH,
84-86 Baker Street,
London, W.1.
Tel.: 01-935 5029/9898/2915.

INTERNATIONAL FAMILY COMPANY

£3,000

The Personnel/Operations Director of an international food Co. in the City needs a Secretary/P.A. This job carries the heavy emphasis on personnel and admin. for the Company. Aged 25 plus. With excellent fringe benefits.

SENIOR SECRETARIES
173 New Bond St., W.1.
01-499 0092; 01-493 5907.

"WALK UP TO THE MACHINE"

Jolly little number this for someone who could get on well with machines. Machines? Computers, actually. It's a whiz kid sort of company and your secretarial skills are really needed. Salary £3,800 p.a. usually (though you could always hope the computer makes a mistake and pays you £2,800 a month).—ACORN, 409 2908.

SECRETARY/SHORTHAND TYPIST for Planning Manager. International Co WC2. Good possibility of annual business trip to Europe. Banking background useful. Aged 25 plus Circa £2,800 plus fringe benefits. Call Centacom Staff, Strand office 836 2875 or Kensington 937 6525.

TRAVEL BROKERS. Directors require Secretary/P.A. for S.W.1 office. Must have conversational German/French as well as secretarial skills. Starting salary £2,500. 4 weeks' holiday plus fringe benefits. Please tel: 930 5022/3.

PARTNERS SECRETARY! £3,000 & LVs. at a great job with lots of scope & responsibility. If you want to use initiative you will in this Design Consultants Co. BROOK STREET BUREAU 584 0661.

WELL EDUCATED SEC. to run small office and hold the fort in Charitable Orgn. in Covent Garden. Versatility and ability to work under duress essential. £2,250, 5 weeks holiday. 01-240 1714.

BI-LINGUAL SECRETARY (German mother tongue) for leading U.S. Bank in City. English and German shorthand. 25-30. £3,300 neg. plus bonus.—Ring Matilda MacIntyre at M. & J., 588 0174.

MEDICAL SECRETARY. Senior Secretary required for busy diagnostic centre in Devonshire Street, W1; hours 10 to 5; starting salary £2,750.—Tel.: 487 4315.

SECRETARY—NO SHORTHAND! To work for a "think tank"! Free meals, 4 weeks holiday a year. £3,400.—Brook Street Bureau. 734 3483.

COLLEGE LEAVER/SEC. for Public Relations, W.1. Salary c. £2,200. —Judy Farquharson, 493 8834.

AUDIO SECRETARY! Up to £2,500 + £5.50 a month L.V.s as reward for accurate, expert work! Brook Street Bureau. 629 1205.

PERSONNEL SECRETARY

Salary around £2,700 P.A.

A senior Personnel Manager in a large West London company will shortly be requiring a Personal Secretary.

Apart from normal secretarial duties the job involves a good deal of administrative work and frequent contact with top level management executives.

Applications are invited from experienced secretaries who are competent in shorthand and typing and who possess qualities of tact and understanding.

Please write or telephone for an application form to:

Mr. J. R. Gunning, Headquarters Employment Manager, Hoover Limited, 11 Wadsworth Road, Perivale, Greenford, Middlesex. Tel. 01-997 3311, extn. 287.

Secretary/ Personal Assistant to Managing Director

CIRCA £3,000

Mature person, mid 20's, with excellent secretarial skills and a lively personality required to run MD's office with smooth efficiency. Position involves the normal duties associated with PA work as well as the supervision of boardroom lunches. An active interest in the work and personal involvement with this fast expanding international credit card Co., based at Oxford Circus, is also essential.

Attractive, modern open plan office. Electric IBM Golfball typewriter, LV's and other fringe benefits.

For full details please telephone Betty Rappaport on 01-580 2040

Secretary for American Bank

Up to £2850+bonus

We require a secretary with some financial experience to work for a small team in our West End office. You should be in your twenties and have 100 w.p.m. shorthand and 60 w.p.m. electric typing speeds.

Your salary will be up to £2850 plus considerable fringe benefits: annual profit sharing bonus; free life insurance and pension; BUPA membership; low interest mortgages; season ticket loans and Luncheon Vouchers.

Write or telephone for an application form to Kay Patterson, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 33 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BH. Telephone 01-283 8888, extension 590.

Morgan Guaranty
Trust Company of New York

SECRETARIAL

SECRETARY TO COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR

of International Foods Subsidiary located in Cannon Street, E.C.4. THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT WILL BE:—

AGED 21-35
EXCELLENT SHORTHAND/AUDIO TYPIST
GOOD ORGANISER
ABLE TO MAINTAIN OFFICE WHEN DIRECTOR IS OVERSEAS

Previous export sales experience and a knowledge of German would be useful.

Benefits include free lunches, 4 weeks' holiday and season ticket loan.

Please telephone or write to
MISS C. BOUCHER, SPILLERS LTD.
OLD CHANGE HOUSE, 4/6 CANNON STREET, EC4M 6XB.
01-248 5700

PERSONALITY PA

OUT OF TOWN

Young, dynamic Managing Director of rapidly expanding German Company, requires urgently an Assistant to join his management team in a delightful East Anglian market town. As well as having some shorthand, speedwriting and typing the applicant must be fairly numerate, flexible and willing to become involved in all aspects of the business. They will have responsibility for specific areas and will be required to use their initiative in making decisions. This is a demanding position for a young person looking for real job satisfaction. Knowledge of German and car driver is an advantage. Salary offered is negotiable around £2,800.

Phone 0775 66444 and ask for Mrs. Welsch.

"JAMS"

are what this Director is always getting into. He needs a P.A./Sec. to get him through the week without hazard. Sec. skills are a must although your main duties are obviously assisting the boss in the running of this department. Excellent conditions with this well known OIL GROUP plus specialised training in money marketing and Oil Investment Programmes. Everything a P.A. could wish for!

Salary £3,000, age 20+.

For details 'phone Chris Wallsgrove
637 3787
PRIME APPOINTMENTS

FIT THE BILL

A small but Fun Marine Insurance Underwriters in E.C.3 are looking for a capable PA/Sec able to deal with people at all levels to work for their top Director. Chance to get on if you have initiative. Age 20/27, salary £2,500-ish. Ring Sallyann Phillips, Special Appointments Division of ADventure. 629 5747.

No shorthand FASHION INTERNATIONAL CO

Train in all aspects of this business and enjoy dealing with well known fashion companies, buyers and clients. With your secretarial skills you will enjoy a good neg salary.

Call Sandra Gibbons now, 734 0911
DRAKE PERSONNEL
225 Regent St., W.1.

FRENCH CONNECTION! English mother tongue with fluent French is sought by a Director of W.1. business consultancy. Skills secretarial (English shorthand only). Plenty of telephone and telex contact with France. Interesting and involved position. Pay £2,600 + L.V.'s. Rand. 589 4545.

INTERNATIONAL AD MAN, just arrived in our fair city, is screaming for Sec/PA, to tell him where to go, what to do & who to see! Knowledge of advertising and French would help. 21+. £2,500. Gee's Recruitment. 499 6101-4.

WEST END TRAVEL AGENCY has immediate permanent vacancy for Secretary to assist Director. Knowledge of France and some French and/or German and skiing useful but not essential. Salary negotiable. 01-734 1398.

SEC./SH. TYPIST. £2,900+. Clothes allowance and bonus and L.Vs. Age 24+, for E.C.2 Merchant Bank. Ring IMMEDIATELY Sandra Johnson, 405 7201. Alangate Agency.

GERMAN/ENGLISH Bi-Lingual Secretary with shorthand in both languages is needed for large Merchant Bank in the City. Aged 22 plus. Salary £3,000 neg. —Senior Secretaries, 499 0092.

SECRETARY, £3,910-£3,234. W.C.1. Work for Recruitment Officer at Professional's Trade Union. Listen on 493 2905. Don't speak.

TO £3,000. P.A./SEC. for young progressive Finance Co., W.1. Job involvement/research. Plush offices.—Tips Agy. 580 6564.

£2,800 NEGOTIABLE. W.1 Co. requires smart Sec. for happy, small mews office. Good shorthand and ability to be trained for advertising and travel. 935 9219.

SECRETARY. W.1 area, early 20s, good speeds. Oil Co. £3,000. Bello Agy. 486 3896. 405 4844.

CRIMINAL LAWYERS. W.C.2. require to secretary.—405 1874.

PART TIME SECRETARY

Experienced Secretary to assist Managing Director's P.A. in Head Office of Industrial Group. Pleasant modern offices near Victoria Station.

Good salary. Flexible hours: school holidays accommodated if necessary.

Phone or write Janet Home
STAVELEY INDUSTRIES LTD.
Portland House, Stag Place SW1E 5BU.
01-828 6311

TOP JOB £2,800

It's a busy day for the involved secretary at Director level of this large W.1 professional association. Organise meetings, arrange—maybe even attend—company luncheons, handle confidential correspondence and more. Stretch yourself and phone me now. Eileen Anderson, 734 0911.

DRAKE PERSONNEL

TRUE BLUE?

Two shorthand secretaries for political association in S.W.1. Good speeds essential. Qualities required are adaptability, discretion and efficiency to tackle these topical positions. Subsidized canteen and bonus scheme. Age 23 to 40-ish.

Please call Mrs. Day, at Lowndes Alax Recruitment
253 0488

SECRETARY for Chairman to work mainly at residence Hampstead/Finchley area. Age 23 to 30 well spoken with good shorthand speeds. Should speak fluent French as second language, have current British driving licence and must be free to travel if necessary. Salary negotiable between £3,000 and £3,500. Write with full details to Box 2331 S, The Times.

FRENCH SPEAKING Market research work and involvement for Sec. with good skills for Sales/Marketing div. of French Co., W.1. Full details of busy, interesting post at around £2,600 from NSS Women's Appointments, 24 5058.

WEST ONE'S most exciting company needs young Secretary interested in entertainment with good skills & education for busy Promotions Executive. Lots of client contact & telephone work. Salary £2,300 + top perks.—Monica Grove & Assoc., 581 2097.

SECRETARY/P.A. for Wimpole Street Gynaecologist. Previous medical, secretarial, nursing experience. Italian, Spanish an asset. Salary a.a.e.—Tel. 01-486 5117.

EMBASSY OF JAPAN, W.1 requires Secretary for Commercial Section. Graduate or "A" level English. Salary according to qualifications and experience. Tel. 493 6030, ext. 141.

CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTOR of small national charity, based central London, needs diligent secretary/P.A. Salary negotiable. Phone 01-930 4258.

£3,000 PLUS for excellent Sec./P.A. for Senior Executive of City Co. Interesting job plus excellent prospects. Telephone Mrs. Foote, 584 4223, N.H.

ARTISTIC EXTROVERT Secretary, age 20+, to work in design studios, W1. Lots of initiative needed, responsible position. Young go-ahead company. £3,300 + neg.—Marlene Lerner Personnel, 22 Baker Street, W1. 935 3012/6460.

YOUNG SECRETARY, 20-ish, with at least 6 months' experience needed as Assistant by Personnel Officer. City Shipping Group. Accurate formal skills, "O" level maths: around £2,600 pa. super fringe benefits.—JOYCE GUINESS BUREAU, 589 8807.

RECEPTIONIST / TYPIST, 21+, Knightsbridge Advertising Co. Busy reception: beautiful offices. Accurate typing—will teach PABX 1. £2,200 p.a. + generous tax-free clothes allowance. 4 weeks' hols.—JOYCE GUINESS BUREAU, 589 8807.

COLLEGE LEAVER, 18+, needed as Secretary to Consultant, small group, St James's, SW1. Shorthand-typing 90/50 wpm, telephone, work dealing with many companies, writing own letters. Plenty of scope and useful experience. £2,000 pa min. 30p LVs. JOYCE GUINESS BUREAU, 589 8807.

SPREAD A LITTLE oil on troubled waters. Secretary (good skills) to assist Oil Company's production men in W.1. Busy, involved job for person who wants plenty of variety. £2,800 + free lunch. London Town Bureau, 836 1994.

IF YOU WANT MORE than just shorthand and typing read on: our West End client wants a happy young Secretary who also enjoys meeting clients, entertaining and wants a fun environment. Salary £3,600 + good bonus. Telephone Fiona Buchanan 584 4223, N.H.

SECRETARY (salary £2,274-£2,700) required for team of 3 hospital administrators. Varied work providing contact with many members of staff and the general public. Extra pay for certain shorthand and typing qualifications. Further details from and applications to: House Governor, St. Stephen's Hospital, Fulham Road, Chelsea SW10 9TH. Tel.: 352 8161, ext. 378.

AUDIO TYPIST required by West End Estate Agents. Good educational background. Interesting work in small, friendly office. Salary by negotiation. F. L. Mercer & Co. Telephone 01-930 7751.

SECRETARY, required for Director General of the Royal Overseas League, St. James's. Could be part-time. Tel. Miss Jennings, 01-493 5051.

DENTAL SECRETARY (no shorthand), over 40, required Harley St.—935 9407.

WEST END LAWYER with exciting practice seeks Shorthand Typist/Secretary. Salary neg. 402 5618.

SECRETARY/ADMIN., for international executive centre near Piccadilly Circus. £3,000 p.a. Phone 839 4052.

MAKE FRANTIC FOURSOME. Sec to 2nd Chief. Head work National Exhibition. W1 office. Phone Casson 01-486 1951 or send U.S. Cavalry.

SITUATIONS WANTED

2 HANDSOME young men wish to work anywhere in Europe. Call 01-262 2331.

LADY 31, trained cook housekeeper, seeks job 2-6 p.m. Anything legal considered.—Box 2476 S, The Times.

WELL EDUCATED girl, typing, cooking, French speaking, experienced with children, seeks interesting summer job with family in Europe, USA considered. Please telephone 727 6745 (eves).

JADED accountancy practice partner seeks creative work anywhere. —Box 2485 S, The Times.

FLAT SHARING

YOUNG Professional person to share luxury house in Northwood, Middx. £60 per month. Tel: Northwood 24119.

3 MONTH LET. Own room, S.W.11. £12 p.w. inc. 223 0377.

S.W.6. Share modernised house, C.H. Own room. £56 p.c.m. excl.—381 0876 (evenings).

W.2. Professional male 25+, own room £20 p.w. incl., 589 4565, 262 7945 eves.

S.W.10.—Large room in flat, £15 p.w. Telephone: 370 3680.

11 MINS. VICTORIA.—Large C.H. room, use k. & b., £13 p.w. 672 8678 eves.



Place your message in The Times on Valentine's day.

On February 14th, there will be a special section in the Personal Columns devoted to Valentine messages. This year, The Times is making a Valentine's day offer that will really sweep your Valentine off her, or his, feet.

Included in the cost of your message, we will send your Valentine, to arrive by February 14th a limited edition of love poems entitled 'Love'. Supplied by Unigift, 'Love' contains a selection of 36 love poems, printed on antique paper, written by authors from Shakespeare to John Lennon.

To ensure your message is read there will be a card with the book stating: "There is a Valentines message for you in The Times."

The minimum size for your message is 3 lines (allow 28 characters including word spaces per line) for which the cost is £6, but, should you wish to extend your sweet-nothings, it will only cost you £2.00 for each additional line.

Complete the coupon below and return it with a cheque or postal order, made out to Times Newspapers Limited to:

The Post Section, A.S.A. Department, 4th Floor,

The Times, P.O. Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

THE TIMES

Place your message here (BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE) ____________________

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Name of sender: ____________________

Address: ____________________

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Telephone: ____________________

Name of proposed recipient: ____________________

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Address: ____________________

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TO ALLOW FOR DISPATCH ALL ORDERS MUST REACH THE TIMES BY FEBRUARY 12th

FLAT SHARING

ANY accommodation to let? [illegible] cutive Flatsharers. 235 618[illegible]

LOOKING FOR OWN ROOM? [illegible] cutive Flatsharers. 235 618[illegible]

MAIDA VALE.—Girl, own [illegible] luxury c.h. flat, col. T.V. [illegible] p.c.m.—289 2387.

FLAT SHARE. 213, Piccadilly 0318. Professional people [illegible]

FLATMATES Specialists [illegible] Brompton Rd., S.W.3. 589 [illegible]

GIRL LATE TWENTIES share flat Mayfair, £20 p.w. [illegible] 839 5775 ext 30 (day) [illegible] 3036 (eves).

CLAPHAM COMMON. Lady to [illegible] new flat. 622 0770.

N.7. M/F. Own room. [illegible] p.c.m. 607 8028 eves.

N.W.3. 3rd girl, share room [illegible] p.c.m. 289 4628, eves.

2 GIRLS SHARE large room [illegible] £9 each p.w. 328 4385 [illegible]

N.5. Own room renovated [illegible] £12-£15 p.w. Tel. eves. [illegible] 0537.

CAMDEN PASSAGE N.1. Girl own room. £54 p.c.m. 226 [illegible] eves.

CHISWICK. 1 person, own room share mod. flat, w. [illegible] p.c.m. Exclusive. Tel. 748 [illegible] after 6.

PUTNEY.—2nd girl, own £60 p.c.m.—789 6932.

2 GUYS to share luxury [illegible] Arch flat with 3rd [illegible] double bedroom £20 p.w. Phone evenings 940 0210 [illegible] 8632.

PICCADILLY. Own room, [illegible] flat, £70 p.c.m. Ring 839 [illegible] after 6 p.m.

QUEENSGATE, Mews, girl [illegible] own room £18 p.w. 589 [illegible] eves.

SHARE-A-FLAT, Empire House Piccadilly. 493 1265.

S.W.3. Double room available mid-June in quiet spacious flat, shared with one [illegible] Refs. essential. £40 p.w. [illegible] 730 8335 after 6 p.m.

HARROW. 4th prof. [illegible] only. Own room. £33 p.c.[illegible] 6016.

W.8. Room in luxury house, [illegible] sional person. £20 inc.—[illegible] 8375.

KENS. HIGH ST. 4th male [illegible] room. £50 p.c.m.—937 060[illegible]

S.W.7. 3 girls, share room [illegible] each p.c.m. 584 3440.

2ND GIRL. Own room. S.W.[illegible] £11 p.w.—235 3850.

N.1. Girl to share attractive [illegible] gian house. £36 p.m. 226 [illegible] after 6.

LITTLE VENICE. Room in large [illegible] All mod. cons. £16 p.w. [illegible] 289 3814 (evgs.).

3RD PROFESSIONAL person, [illegible] house. £13 p.w. 870 1114 [illegible]

PARSONS GREEN, S.W.6. [illegible] wanted to complete comfor[illegible] household of 4. Own [illegible] £13.50 p.w. excl. 01-546 [illegible] day.

5TH PERSON share large h[illegible] Own room. £10 p.w. 736-[illegible]

FEMALE, 24+. Own room, [illegible] flat, £15 p.w. inc. C.H. T.V.-Parking, garden, Plimer mins.—Baker St.). 806 8588 [illegible]

HIGHGATE. Girl to share [illegible] flat; own room, c.h., £50 [illegible] —348 4568 (eves.).

GIRL mid-30s wanted to share [illegible] furnished flat in Fulham with other girls, own room. [illegible] Freud, day 499 1944, eve. [illegible] 4549.

S.W.1. Single room in [illegible] house. c.h. and T.V. Ideal study. 834 6318.

N.W.8. Double room in [illegible] flat. c.h. £17.50 p.w. 286 [illegible]

3RD PERSON, own room, [illegible] —Barnes. £13.50 p.w.—748 [illegible]

BARNES, Ground floor flat, m[illegible] own room, mid 20's £14 p[illegible] inc. TV and c.h. 748 2721 ev[illegible]

S.W.11. Luxury flat, single roo[illegible] £10, Double room £8 each. P[illegible] fessional/Business people. [illegible] 720 5813 evenings.

GLOUCESTER TERRACE, W. [illegible] Own room luxury flat, prof[illegible] sional mid-30s. £20 p.w. incl. 402 7864 eves.

W.1 FLAT, 2nd man share roo[illegible] c.h., etc., £66 p.c.m.—2[illegible] 5865 after 6.

2 PERSONS to share luxury hou[illegible] W.8, £54.80 p.c.m.—737 [illegible]

AMAZING HOUSE, Stockwell. [illegible] Needs 3rd, 4 bedrooms, 2 bath[illegible] beautifully decorated and f[illegible] nished. £20 p.w. exc. 622 86[illegible]

SHEPHERDS BUSH. 4th girl, o[illegible] room, £38 per 4 weeks. 01-9[illegible] 3636, ex. 254 (office).

RENTALS

AROUND TOWN FLATS
120 HOLLAND PK. AV., W.11

Walter St., S.W.3.—Smart [illegible] a terre in this fashionable street. Attractive small garden. Super for executive. 3 mths [illegible] only. £35.

Holland Park, W.11.—1st floor flat, 2 rooms, k. & b., [illegible] superb position opp. park gates in elegant period house. Very good value indeed. £42.

Belsize Park Gdns., N.W.3.—Modern, streamlined, split-level studio-type flat for 1 [illegible] Wrighton kitchen. Patio. [illegible]

Queen's Gate, S.W.7.—Spacious 2-room flat. Parquet floors, high ceilings. For 4 mths. Suit discriminating couple. £50 incl. c.h. & h.w.

01-229 0033

FLATLAND
79 Buckingham Palace Rd., S.W.1.

HAMPSTEAD, N.W.3. Lovely modern Habitat style 3 be[illegible] room flat for 3. Fully equipped with dishwasher, freezer, c.h., phone, etc. Excellent valu[illegible] £42.

PIMLICO, S.W.1. Brand ne[illegible] Swedish design 1st floor fla[illegible] 2 double beds., reception, k., b. with shower, c.h. and pho[illegible] £65.

KENSINGTON, W.8. [illegible] lute luxury—beautifully [illegible] lated mansion flat ideal [illegible] embassy etc. 4 beds., [illegible] reception, family size kit[illegible] 2 baths with shower, TV, [illegible] phone etc. Garage avail. [illegible] Ring Lidia 01-328 5124.

LANDLORDS

We urgently need 3/4 [illegible] room furnished flats [illegible] houses in all the best area[illegible] our many embassy and [illegible] national company clients. Our advice and expertise [illegible] all aspects of furnished letti[illegible] are at your service and [illegible] charges are a pleasant surpri[illegible]

AROUND TOWN FLA[illegible]
120 Holland Pk. Av., W.11.
01-229 0033.

PROPERTY TO LET? We [illegible] require for international [illegible] panies flats/houses from £[illegible] £350 p.w. in London. Short [illegible] lets.—Scott Gilroy, 584 [illegible]

FLATLAND, 79 Buckingham [illegible] Rd., SW1. Central London [illegible] lets (visitors). Flats £3[illegible] Flatlets £18+. Also long [illegible] £40+. Tel. 10-6 p.m. [illegible]

HOUSE AND MERCEDES [illegible] cook/chauffeur available [illegible] short lots from £150 p.w. [illegible] 1048.

SUPERIOR FLATS/HOUSES [illegible] able and required for [illegible] executives. Long/short [illegible] areas. Lipfriend & Co. [illegible]

GARAGE TO LET near W[illegible] £40 per month.—Teleph[illegible] 1103 after 7 p.m.

S. KENSINGTON, furnished [illegible] floor. 1 recept., 1 double [illegible] £30 p.w. 01-584 0945.

PARSONS GREEN, S.W.6. [illegible] fully dec. & furn., 3 bed[illegible] recept., family house [illegible] equipped, washing machi[illegible] Fulham Apartments [illegible]

BARNES.—Det. house, 4 bed[illegible] double recep., k. & [illegible] garden, garage. £100 p.w. [illegible] ington Flats. 373 500[illegible]

KENSINGTON Flat in [illegible] block with 2 bed., 2 rec[illegible] & b., lift and porter. C.[illegible] H.W. inc. Short or long [illegible] p.w. K.A.L. 581 2267.

NR EARLS COURT.—Pretty [illegible] in quiet cul-de-sac. [illegible] recept., k. & b., 5 mins [illegible] p.w. K.A.L. 581 2267.

REGENTS PARK house [illegible] tion, 4 beds., large recep[illegible] cab kit., 2 baths. Short [illegible] and many other prop[illegible] Quintess. 584 7521.

N.W.1.—Unusual modern [illegible] studio house, C.H., garden [illegible]

FULHAM. Lovely furnished [illegible] Double bedroom, reception [illegible] diner, k. & b., £25 p.w. [illegible]

STREATHAM. Highly recomm[illegible] 3 bedroom det., furn. [illegible] recept., k. & b., [illegible] stereo, c.h. [illegible] p.w. [illegible]

WIMBLEDON In small block [illegible] furnished flat. Double bed[illegible] lounge, dining room [illegible] bathroom, C.H. [illegible] let, £35 p.w. [illegible]

ICKLEFORD, NR. HITCHIN. [illegible]

EAST MOLESEY [illegible]

SWISS COTTAGE. Large [illegible]

BAKER STREET. [illegible]

WIMBLEDON [illegible]

BELGRAVIA. [illegible]

HERTS.—[illegible]

ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1. [illegible]

(continued on page 27)

...ing ...opens on ...g test

...sals for tightening ...g law are still ... Gilbert, Minister ...moved commend... road safety field; ...struction and the

...paper, on which ...re being asked to ...by March 26, con...res that the minis...to effect this year, ...rm proposals. So ...test is concerned, ...first big changes ...duced more than

...weaknesses at pre... Mr Gilbert, is the ...dition is given by ...instructors. About ...uctors hold trainee ...the proportion in ...ich higher. More... for an unqualified ...for a year without ...m of obtaining his

...amount of tuition ...the minister wants ...ructor's licence fee ...change the present ...of trainees to ...ors so that it ...e to three. There ...rvision of trainees ...lessons given by ...e cheaper, and ...rs would have to ...icates in driving

...ing comments, too, ...hat tuition should ...dual-carriageway ...car maintenance. ...night driving is ...essons in the sum... start late in the ...e of dual carriage... presumably include ...her good idea in ...schools might be ...rner drivers loose ...even dual controls ...to cope with an ...native would be to ...ake instruction in ...after they had

...int of view, there ...eliming case for ...driver on simple ...ne driving schools ...uggests that ques... ...nance should be ...and form part of ...on, which would ...pe of the Highway ...ries a written test ...re the candidate ...l part. ...e driving school ...r proposal; that ...ve undergone a ...tuition with a ...or, say 10 hours. ...at that would not ...eral standard of ...d help to improve ...ss-rate (which is

...vers do have some ...ction. According ...80 per cent have ...30 hours, 12 per ...ours, and only 8

The duration of the test has remained at 45 minutes for the past 28 years, while the average distance driven has fallen, because of increased traffic, from 8½ miles to 5½. To restore the distance, the test would have to be increased to at least an hour and that Mr Gilbert intends to do; at present, however, the shortage of examiners makes it impracticable. The longer test might be fairer to the candidate, giving the examiner more evidence on which to base his decision.

The only change proposed in the practical part of the test is the addition of a reverse parking manoeuvre. That would be an alternative to the present requirement to reverse round a corner, and would depend on a suitable space being available on the test route. Candidates would have to be prepared for either exercise.

Mr Gilbert is asking for other suggestions for improving the test and those he is most likely to receive concern health and eyesight. A candidate has simply to declare that he is fit to drive and be able to read a number plate at 25 yards: should he not be required to have his eyes checked by an optician and his general health by his doctor? There will also be support for the idea, practised in Northern Ireland and France, of making a successful candidate carry a special plate (P for probationer?) for a period after he has passed his test, as a guide to other road users.

One decision on which Mr Gilbert is not inviting discussion is to increase the test fee from £3.25 to £6.75 from August 1. The cost of the test exceeds revenue from fees by nearly £250,000 a month.



Fast Escort: the RS2000 with its distinctive "soft nose".

Road test: Ford Escort RS 2000

Imported from Germany, the RS2000 is one of three high-performance versions—the others are the RS1800 and the Mexico—of the revised Escort, which was introduced last year. If the RS1800 is nearest in concept to the Ford rally cars, which swept the board in the RAC event in November, the 2000 has the largest engine in the Escort range and the highest level of equipment. In short, it aims to marry performance with comfort and refinement.

The main ingredient in the conversion from conventional small saloon to performance car is the Ford two-litre overhead camshaft engine, uprated from 99 to 110 bhp and mounted to reduce noise and vibration. The gearbox is the Cortina unit, modified for shorter travel, while the suspension has been extensively reworked (on the lines of that used in the rally cars) to provide roadholding equal to the extra power.

The car is six inches longer than the other Escorts, thanks to its streamlined nose, which has an integral air dam and has been fitted to cut drag and front-end lift. The nose is made of flexible polyurethane which deflects on impact and then returns to its original shape. That should not only cut repair bills but lessen the severity of pedestrian injuries. A boot-lid spoiler, made of the same material, reduces lift at the back. Interior features include fully reclining rally-style bucket seats, an all-black decor, and extra instruments.

Performance, as one might expect from the ratio of power to weight, is excellent. Acceleration to 60 mph takes only 8½ seconds, putting the RS2000 among the fastest cars on the road outside the high-priced exotica, and there is plenty of pulling power in top gear. Driven hard through the gears, the engine gives a throaty roar but at 70 mph it is quiet and unfussed and wind noise is modest. The claimed top speed is 111 mph. I found fuel consumption fairly high, returning 23 to 27 mpg, but it must be said that the car invites hard driving and my figures probably reflect that.

The handling has a sports car tautness, with virtually no body roll, and the fat tyres help to give excellent road-holding. The steering, through a 14in wheel, is admirably precise and responsive, if a little heavy. The gearbox feels notchy at first, but with practice is easy to use and the brakes—discs in front—have ample power. The ride is hard and may be uncomfortable, and there is quite a lot of road noise. The seats certainly hold you in on corners and give good support to the thighs, but they were designed for a thinner frame than mine and leave less leg room in the back than on other Escorts.

The instruments include a clock and revolution counter, and other standard items are cloth upholstery, full carpeting and powerful twin headlights. I dislike black interiors; but that is my prejudice. For what it offers, particularly on performance and handling, the RS2000 is competitively priced at £2,857.

Guide to Europe

To meet the needs of the two million British holidaymakers who are expected to venture abroad by car this year the Automobile Association and the Readers' Digest have produced an attractive *Road Book of Europe*. The centrepiece is a 112-page atlas, printed with continuity flaps so that east-west routes can be followed from page to page and admirably indexed. There are street plans of more than 50 cities, routes to the principal holiday areas and suggestions for motoring tours. The book covers insurance, caravaning, road signs, motoring laws, petrol grades; indeed it is difficult to think of anything of substance that is not included.

The only quarrel is that for a book costing £7.95 (£6.95 to AA members) some of the material is going to be out of date fairly soon. Prices—of ferries, petrol and so on—are the most obvious examples but new roads are opened, speed limits change and by the time you actually get to Zagreb the British consul may be at an entirely different address.

I suppose the ideal solution would be a supplement, issued, say, once a year, to keep the book topical. Failing that, I suggest keeping an eye on the motoring magazines at this time of year: *Autocar*, for instance, published on January 24, an excellent "holiday planner" which could complement the AA's publication.

Peter Waymark

...sting

...ed about the cost of living in your semi-detached? Pity the ...Megginch as they struggle to make ends meet in their stately ...10). Meanwhile away from the grim realities on the comic side of ...Sid James dreams a dream in Bless This House (ITV 8.30) and ...nducts his own case against his local council in Happy Ever After ...Winter-sports enthusiasts get another grandstand view of the Winter ...1 1.0 and 6.45). Not to be outdone Blue Peter, the children's ...ies the Cresta run (BBC1 4.45).—L.B.

...e Move. ...er Olym- ...2.00-2.15, ...Day and ...80 Show. ...25, The ...ory. 4.45, ...Craven. ...40, Ivor ...ionwide. ...tand. ...er. ...t Comes ...Bolam, ...n. Coal ...Days. ...arts in

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 am, Play School. 6.15 pm, Open University: Introduction to Chemistry and Geology; 6.40, Introduction to Education. 7.05, Avventura.
7.30 Newsday.
8.10 The Drummonds of Megginch: The struggle to keep a family castle and estate going.
9.00 Film: From Here to Eternity, with Burt Lancaster, Montgomery Clift, Deborah Kerr, Frank Sinatra, Donna Reed.*
10.55 Film Night.
11.20 Newsnight.
11.35-11.40, Bernard Hepton reads Have You Been in London? by Norman Nicholson.
*Black and white.

Thames

12.00, The Laughing Policeman. 12.10 pm, Rainbow. 12.30, Perfect Pets. 1.00, News. 1.20, Lunchtime Today. 1.30, Crown Court. 2.00, Good Afternoon. 2.30, Couples. 3.00, Moody and Pegg. 3.55, General Hospital. 4.25, The New Land. 5.20, Indoor League.
5.50 News. 6.00, Today.
6.35 Crossroads.
7.00 The World at War.
8.00 This Week. Margaret Thatcher, MP.
8.30 Bless This House.
9.00 Clayhanger.
10.00 News.
10.30 Film: Age of Consent, with James Mason, Helen Mirren.
12.15-12.25 am, Crime from the Cradle.

ATV

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, ATV News. 1.30, Thames. 4.25, Film: The Lone Ranger and the Lost City of Gold, with Clayton Moore, Jay Silverheels. 5.50, News. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35, Crossroads. 7.00, Space 1999. 8.00, Thames. 10.30, Columbo. 11.55, Eric Delve.

Southern

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Southern News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Women Only. 2.30, Thames. 4.25, Tarzan. 5.20, Sinbad Junior. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Day by Day. 6.35, Survival. 7.00, The Six Million Dollar Man. 8.00, Thames. 10.30, Film: Brides of Dracula, with Peter Cushing. 12.00, Southern News. 12.10 am, Weather. Guideline.

...1): ...2.00 pm, ...Blidowcar. ...6.22-6.45, ...for Wales. ...pm. ...Nationwide. ...Cambridge: ...st Only). ...th West. ...Summary. ...IRELAND. ...round Six. ...ern Ireland

Granada

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, This Is Your Right. 1.30, Thames. 4.25, The Flintstones. 4.50, Survival. 5.15, Dodo. 5.20, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.30, The Addams Family.* 7.00, The Six Million Dollar Man. 8.00, Thames. 10.30, Good Health. 11.00, Kung Fu. 11.55-12.30 am, Silents please.*

Grampian

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Grampian News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Women Only. 2.30, Thames. 4.25, Tarzan. 5.20, Batman. 5.50, News. 6.00, Grampian Today. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, The Six Million Dollar Man. 8.00, Thames. 10.30, Sports-call. 11.10, Nurse of the Year. 11.40, Prayers.

Yorkshire

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Calendar News. 1.30, Thames. 4.25, Lassie. 4.50, Return to the Planet of the Apes. 5.20, Thames. 6.00, Calendar. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, The Six Million Dollar Man. 8.00, Thames. 10.30, Emmerdale Farm. 11.25, 11.55, A Matter for Concern.

...pm, West ...Headlines. ...Women Only. ...zan. 5.20, ...ds. 5.50, ...est. 6.18, ...Best in the ...Dollar Man. ...Trash or ...Protectors. ...CYMRU/ ...rpl: 1.20- ...on y Dydd, ...6.01-6.18, ...ris Arena. ...repl: 1.20- ...6.18-6.35,

Border

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Border News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Women Only. 2.30, Thames. 4.25, Lassie. 4.50, Return to the Planet of the Apes. 5.20, Thames. 6.00, Border News. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, The Six Million Dollar Man. 8.00, Thames. 10.30, Film: Daughter of the Mind, with Ray Milland, Gene Tierney. 11.55, Border News.

Tyne Tees

12.00, Thames. 2.00 pm, Women Only. 2.30, Thames. 4.25, Lassie. 4.50, Return to the Planet of the Apes. 5.20, Tell Me Why. 5.50, News. 6.00, Today. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, The Six Million Dollar Man. 8.00, Thames. 10.30, The Streets of San Francisco. 11.35, Epilogue.

...am, Anglia ...00, Women ...25, Romper ...5.20, The ...ews. 6.00, ...rena. 6.35, ...Dollar Man. ...Play Squash ...riff. 11.55, ...for Adults. ...rd.

Scottish

12.00, Thames. 1.25 pm, Road Report. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Women Only. 2.30, Thames. 4.25, Tarzan. 5.20, Lace-buttonnoppers. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Scotland Today. 6.30, Larry Looks Eighty. 7.00, ATV. 8.00, Thames. 10.30, Night Out. 11.00, Late Call. 11.05-11.35, Dilemma.

...i, Westward ...Thames. ...Who Could ...and Young. ...ichardson. ...ward Diary. ...illion Dollar ...0.30, West- ...Westward ...ountry Job ...r Life.

Ulster

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Ulster News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 4.25, Born Free. 5.20, Thames. 6.00, UTV Reports. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, Six Million Dollar Man. 8.00, Thames. 10.30, Let's Play Bridge. 11.00-11.30, What's It All About?

Radio

1
6.00 am, News. Colin Berry.† 7.00, Noel Edmonds. 9.00, Tony Blackburn. 12.00, Johnnie Walker. 2.02pm, David Hamilton.† 4.30, DLT. 5.45, Newsbeat. 6.02, Sam Costa. 6.45, Sports Desk. 7.02, Support Your Local. 7.30, Folk '76.† 8.02, Folkweave.† 9.02, Wally Whyton's Country Club.† 11.00, John Peel.† 12.00-12.05 am, News.
† Stereo.

2
6.00 am, Radio 1. 7.02, Terry Wogan.† 8.02, Test Cricket. 8.27, Racing bulletin. 8.02, Pete Murray.† 10.30, Waggoners' Walk. 11.30, Jimmy Young.† 2.02 pm, Radio 1. 4.30, Waggoners' Walk. 4.45, Sports Desk. 4.47, Sam Costa. 6.45, Radio 1. 11.02, Don Durbridge (1,500m). 12.00-12.05 am, News.

3
7.00 am, News. 7.05, Berlioz, Spohr, Brahms.† 8.00, News. 8.05, Vivaldi, Telemann, Haydn.† 9.00, News. 9.05, Mozart.† 9.45, Dohnanyi, Bartok, orr Szekely, Grieg.† 10.45, Piano recital: Debussy.† 11.15, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra part 1: Beethoven, Mozart.† 12.00, Words, by Jan Robinson. 12.05 pm, Concert, part 2: Vaughan Williams.† 1.00, News. 1.05, Manchester Midday Concert: Schumann, Falla. 2.00, Stereo Release.† 3.00, In Memoriam: Edward Cowie's Somnus et Inductus.† 4.05, BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra: Rimsky-Korsakov, Barber, Mozart.† 5.25, Plod Three.† 5.45, Homeward Bound.† 6.05, News. 6.10, Homeward Bound (continued).† 6.30, The Parliamentary Process. 7.00, The Police in Britain.

7.30, Music in Question.† 8.00, RPO Concert, part 1: Elgar, Schumann.† 8.45, When Winter Began, story by Elio Vittorini. 9.05, Concert, part 2: Justin Connolly, Strauss.† 10.00, Variations on Themes by Chekhov, by Caryl Brahms, reading. 10.30, Music of Tchaikovsky's Russia.† 11.25-11.30, News.

4
6.20 am, News. 6.22, Farming. 6.40, Prayer. 6.45, Today. 7.00, News and more of Today. 8.00, News and more of Today. 8.45, Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00, News. 9.05, Richard Baker. 10.00, News. 10.05, From Our Own Correspondent. 10.30, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.05, Mr and Mrs Parkinson. 11.50, James Herriot: The World's Favourite Vet. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm, You and Yours. 12.27, My Music. 12.55, Weather.
1.00, News. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 2.45, Listen With Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, Play: Sword Dance. 3.50, Jack de Manio. 4.35, Story, Pronoley Parsonage. 5.00, PM Reports. 5.55, Weather.
6.00, News. 6.15, Just a Minute. 6.45, The Archers. 7.00, News. 7.05, Any Answers? 8.00, Something to Declare: Eric Newby and Dervla Murphy. 8.45, Analysis: The Public Purse. 9.30, Kaleidoscope. 9.59, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.45, A Book at Bedtime: A Handful of Dust. 11.00, The Financial World Tonight. 11.15, Today in Parliament. 11.30, News. 11.51-11.54, Inshore Forecast.
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RENTALS

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A & O LEVELS. Experienced tutors in all subjects. Estab. 1961.—Talbot-Rice, 584 1613.
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MINI WIRE-HAIRED dachshund puppies. Pedigree. Home-bred. —Bridgemen, Lodsworth 205.
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WANTED

ANTIQUE FRENCH CLOCK wanted by collector, preferably from Ganvier or Raingo.—Reply Box 1999 S, The Times.

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LARGE AND SMALL phrenology heads required by collector. Good price paid. Greens, 01-229 9618.

GIGANTIC old painting wanted.— 01-584 1228.

PERSIAN RUGS purchased, cleaning and restoring service. Knightsbridge Carpet Galleries, 141 Brompton Rd., SW3. 01-589 4411.
SNOOKER TABLE WANTED in 1st class condition, full size, good price paid. Ring Great Glen 2755 (eves. & w'end.), Leicester 715515 (days).
BOOK desperately wanted on Charles Rennie Mackintosh by Robert Macleod published 1968. —Tel.: 01-794 1322.
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OAK PANELLING. Linenfold, etc., for sale. Also 17th Century four poster bed. Telephone [illegible]
YORK PAVING flags delivered.— Scaner, Chelmsford [illegible]
PIANO, BOYD UPRIGHT, reconditioned, excellent condition. [illegible]
MATCHING MATCHBOOKS [illegible]
BATHROOM SUITES in 18 different colours. Phone [illegible] Birch, 01-[illegible]. Matthews Ltd., 145-147 Essex Rd., N.1.
4 POSTER BED for sale. Dated, [illegible] £950. Tel. 221 3872.
EXCELLENT overstrung piano, [illegible] condition, around £175. Good [illegible]
SPANISH, full-length Red Fox fur coat, size 12, for sale. [illegible]
UNIQUE LAMP carved stone [illegible]

(continued on page 28)

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"Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."—St. Matthew 6: 10.

BIRTHS

BOYD.—On January 3th, in Japan, to Miki and Stephen—a son (Richard Dixon), a brother for Manami.

BOYD.—On February 3rd, in Oxford, to Patricia (nee Crawford) and Richard—a son (James Theodore Adrian), a brother for Maggie.

BRENDEL.—On February 4th, at Westminster Hospital, London, to Renee and Alfred Brendel—a son.

BURTON.—On 30th January, to Chris and Jean Burton—God's gift of a son.

CLIFFORD BROWN.—On Feb. 3rd, at John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Sarah (nee Frearson) and Hugo Clifford Brown—a son.

DICKSON LEACH.—On 27th January, 1976, in Hongkong, to Joanna (nee Osmond) and James —a daughter (Amelia Hope), a sister for Alexandra.

DYSON.—On February 4th in Johannesburg to Teddy (nee Prain) and Andrew Dyson—a son (Thomas Rupert).

GARTON.—On February 3rd, at University College Hospital, to Antonella (nee Taylor) and Richard—a son.

HART.—On 31st January, in Stuttgart, to Marilyn (nee Trounson) and Derek—a son (Joshua Noah), a grandson for Adele and Harry Seinal.

JAY.—On 2nd February, to Sandra and Martin—a son (Adam Douglas Oliver).

JEWELL.—On 3rd February, at University College Hospital, to Sarah (nee Street), wife of Christopher Jewell—a son.

KELLY.—On 3 February, 1976, at St. Thomas' Hospital, to Alison (nee Durant) and Christopher—a son (Tobias William), a brother for Jacob Henry.

MARKESINIS.—On January 30th, at Cambridge, to Eugenie (nee Trypanis) and Vassili Spyros Markesinis—a son (Spyros George).

McGREGOR.—On 2nd February at Westminster Hospital to Gill and Douglas—a son.

SCHOLEFIELD.—On February 4th, in Hereford, to Judy (nee Craven) and Dr. Robert Scholefield —a third son (Barnaby Robert).

SHAW.—On Feb. 4th, at St. Teresa's Hospital, Wimbledon, to Susan (nee Preiti) and Gavin Shaw—a son, brother for Tania.

TURNER.—On February 2nd, at Queen Mary's, Roehampton, to Claire (nee Husk) and Michael Turner—a daughter (Zoe Claire Francoise), a sister for Oliver.

WILSON.—On February 2nd, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, to Jane and David Wilson—a son (Benjamin John), a brother for Anna.

ADOPTIONS

STAMP.—On 4th February, by Anthony and Rosemary (nee Boggs-Rolfe)—a son (Joseph Anthony), born 23rd April, 1975.

MARRIAGES

CONWAY : CARSON.—On January 31st, 1976, in London, Juliet, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jack Carson, of West Didsbury, Manchester, to Robert Clive Conway, of Pimlico, London.

DEATHS

BEAZLEY.—On the 3rd February, 1976, peacefully after a long illness, Lt. Col. (late R.M.) Gerald Willis, husband of the late Lucretia McClure. Funeral at Shottermill Church, Monday, 9th, 2 p.m., followed by cremation.

DEATHS

MR. PEREGRINE de FALCONER

On Friday, January 30, there appeared [in this column] an announcement of the death of Peregrine de Falconer, Chief Executive of the World Youth Federation and of Roots National Campaign for Youth. This announcement, accepted by telephone and checked by us with the source, was false. "The Times" apologises to Mr. de Falconer and to his family and friends for the distress caused to them by its appearance in our columns.

BLAIR-LEIGHTON.—On February 4th, 1976, peacefully, at his home, South Holding, Broad Oak, Rye, Sussex, Eric John Blair-Leighton, dearly loved father of Hugh and Sanchia. Funeral at Hastings Crematorium on Wednesday, 11th February, at 3 pm. Flowers to Ellis Brothers (Rye) Ltd, 13 Cinque-ports Street, Rye, Sussex.

BOYLE.—On 3rd February, peacefully, at Frimley Park Hospital, Camberley, Surrey, Dulcie, most loving and beloved mother of Grizel and Tricia and grandmother of eight. Memorial service, 2.30 p.m., Friday, 6th, St. Paul's Church, Camberley. Flowers to E. Finch & Sons, 133 High Street, Aldershot, by 8.30 a.m.

BROWN.—On February 4th, 1976, at West Walks House, Dorchester, Roland F. J., aged 70 years. Funeral service at St. Mary's Church, Dorchester, on Monday, February 9th, at 11.30 a.m. Family flowers only, please. Donations, if desired, for Leukaemia Research, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Smithfield, London, EC1A 7BE.

BURGE.—On February 3, suddenly, in Guernsey, Colonel William James Burge (rtd.), M.A., aged 63 years. Very dear husband of Mabs and father of Bill, Mary and James.

COX.—On 4th February, Nora Cox. Service Laughton Church, near Lewes, Sussex, on Tuesday, 10th February, at 1.15 p.m. Family flowers only.

DAVIS.—On 3rd February, at the General Hospital, Bristol, Everard, beloved husband of Jean, of 19 Downs Park East, Westbury Park, and father of Granville, Karl and Christopher. Private service, family flowers only.

DAWES.—On January 31st, 1976, Annie Elizabeth in her 101st year. Much loved Nannie to the Harbord and Lane-Fox families.

DOWNS.—On 3rd Feb., suddenly at Revnards Close, Bickley, Vera, beloved wife of George and mother of Angela and Michael. Service at St. Francis Church, Petts Wood, 12th Feb., 2.45 p.m., followed by private cremation. Flowers to Francis Chapel, 251 High St., Bromley.

FENTIMAN.—On February 4, suddenly, at Summer Hill Lodge, Ewell Minnis, Kent. Theodora. Beloved wife of Ferty and darling mother of Derek and Sarah.

FINDLAY.—On 31st January, 1976, at her home, Rosamor, Grantown on Spey, Violet A. Findlay, beloved widow of John Findlay, and loving mother of Sheila, Jean and Jock. Funeral service in St. Columba's Episcopal Church, Grantown on Spey, on Friday 6th February, at 12 noon, and thereafter to New Cemetery. All friends respectfully invited.

GEE.—On February 3rd, at home, Michael, beloved husband of Jean and father of Caroline, Philippa, Charlotte and Alexandra. Cremation at Putney Vale on Monday next, at 4.30. No flowers. Donations if desired to Professor Bagshawe, Cancer Research Department, Charing Cross Hospital, W.6.

GUBBINS.—On February 3rd, 1976, at Royal Victoria Hospital, Deal, Nathaniel, aged 32 years, of Dover Lodge, 192 Dover Rd., Walmer, Kent. Funeral to be arranged.

HALL.—On February 4th, 1976, at her home, 74 Linkside Avenue, Oxford, Mabel, dearly loved wife for 60 years of Kenneth Lambert Hall. Cremation private, no flowers. RIP.

HORROCKS.—On February 2nd, 1976, George Bernard Heywood, of 32, Brent Street, Hendon, darling husband of Jill. Funeral service at Hendon Crematorium, 2 pm, Tuesday, 10th February. Flowers to be sent to Sydney Hurry Ltd, 115, Burnt Oak Broadway, Edgware, Middlesex. Telephone 01-952 1864.

KIDNER.—On Feb. 4, 1976, at Lakenheath, Suffolk, Alfred William, aged 45. Cremation at St. Faith's, Norwich, 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 7th. No flowers, donations if wished to Hon. Sec., Norfolk Junior Tennis Coaching Committee, 200 Unthank Rd., Norwich.

LAVER.—On February 3rd, at Poole General Hospital, after a brief illness, Dulcie, wife of the late Charles Hardiman Laver, F.R.C.S. Private cremation. Memorial service later in Reigate.

LUSCOMBE.—On 4th February, 1976, peacefully in hospital, after a short illness, Norman P. Luscombe, C.B., formerly Director-General of Supplies and Transport (Navy), husband of Betty and father of Wendy and Ann.

MASON.—On February 3rd at home, Vinton Grange, near Stratford upon Avon, Kenneth John d'Arcy, aged 59, beloved father of Nicholas and Sally. Funeral service at St. Peters Vinton, on Friday 6th February, at 2.30 p.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, please.

NEARY.—On January 28th, 1976, Florence Ann Ethel Fuller (Diana), of 38 All Saints Street, Hastings, formerly of 8 Holland Street, London, W.8. Eldest daughter of the late Major and Mrs Stephen Neary. Much loved by her sister and her family and by all who knew her.

SCOTT.—On 4th February, 1976, Mary Ethel, aged 84, at the Manor Hotel, Hindhead, Surrey. Formerly of Hilgay, Warren Rd., Guildford.

SIMPSON.—On February 1st, 1976, suddenly, at Hilldene Cottands, Sidmouth, Doctor James Victor Alexander Simpson. Cremation took place at Exeter yesterday.

THORNTON.—On 3rd Feb., 1976, peacefully in a London hospital, Edwin Charles, husband of Doris Emily Thornton and father of Wendy. Cremation at St. Marylebone Crematorium on Mon., 9th Feb., 1976, at 12 noon. Flowers to Wm. Tookey & Son, 51 Marylebone High St., London, W.1.

TURNER.—On February 2, 1976, peacefully, in his 97th year, Alfred Charles Turner, at 13 Lingdale Road, West Kirby, Merseyside. Husband of the late Olive Elvood Turner and father of Olivia and Amabel. Funeral service at St. Hildeburgh's Church, Stanley Road, Hoylake, on Friday, February 6, at 10.15 a.m. followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, please.

DEATHS

VIOLA, DR. WILHELM ALFRED. Born in Vienna, 11th April, 1894, died on 22nd January, 1976, suddenly while on holiday in Austria. Burial Thursday, 5th February, at Marylebone Cemetery, East Finchley. A memorial service will be announced later.

WADE.—On February 3rd, peacefully at home, Elizabeth Wade, aged 81, much loved Granny of the Conybeare family, New Hextalls, Bletchingley. Funeral, Saturday, 7th February. Flowers to Stoneman, Baron Court, Redhill.

WALL-GARLAND.—On 3rd February, 1976, Veronica Princessa, Princess by name, princess by nature. Beloved wife of W. G. (Bill) Wall-Garland. Funeral service at Merton and Sutton Cemetery, Garth Road, Morden, on Wednesday, 11th February, at 12 noon. All inquiries to Ashton Funerals, Tel. 01-946 1051.

WALTON.—On February 3rd, peacefully, in Orpington Hospital, after a very short illness, Maisie, loving daughter of Mrs. Mary Howard. Cremation at Eltham Crematorium, Tuesday, February 10th, at 10.40 a.m. No flowers or letters, by request.

WEBB.—5 February, 1976, Joan Claire, of 172 Russell Court, Woburn Place, W.C.1. Peacefully in hospital after long illness. Cremation at East Finchley, 3.00 p.m., Monday, 9th Feb. Flowers may be sent to France's, Lambs Conduit St., by midday.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

RAYNS.—A memorial service for the late Dr Frank Rayns, C.B.E., Sc.D., will be held in Norwich at St. Peter Mancroft, on Wednesday, 18th February, 1976, at 3 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

BEITH, A. V. (Bill), February 5th, 1955. To honour his memory.

BONAVIA.—In memory of Ferruccio Bonavia, violinist, composer, and critic, who died Feb. 5, 1950. A man very dearly loved.

BYFORD, LT. CHARLES MICHAEL CADY (The Queens Own Hussars) who died on 5th February, 1974. In proud memory.—Mummy, Daddy, Diana, David and Wendy.

MEADE.—In loving memory of Geraldine (Gerry) and Lionel, her husband. Remembered with gratitude by so many.

METCALFE.—In ever-loving grateful and most happy memory of darling Mamma, February 5th, 1965. Son and daughters.

PURDEY, HARRIETT, died May 11, 1967. Remembering my mother (Puss) with all my love, on this, her birthday—and every other day.—Enid.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

J. H. KENYON Ltd. FUNERAL DIRECTORS
Day or Night Service
Private Chapels
49 Edgware Road, W.2
01-723 3277
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01-937 0757

WINTER SALES

DISCURIO gramophone record sale now on. All British and foreign stock at reduced prices. Mon.-Fri., 10-7 p.m.; Sat. 10-5 p.m. Discurio 9 Shepherd Street, W.1.

JUST MEN. 7/9 Tryon St., SW3. Sale Now On.

NIGHT OWLS children's sale still on. Large reductions on all stock. Open Mon.-Sat., 10-6. 76 Fulham Road, London, SW3. Tel. 634 2461.

SENSATIONAL SUEDE Leather & Fur Sale. Maxfield Parrish, Smith St., Chelsea, 730 4867.

A TREASURE ISLAND Super Sale. 81 Pimlico Rd., Now !

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

Is the largest single supporter in the U.K. of research into all forms of cancer.
Help us to conquer cancer with a legacy, donation or "In Memoriam" donation to

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN
Dept. TX1, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AR

SUTTON otherwise STEWART.—ADA MAUD SUTTON otherwise ADA MAUD STEWART, spinster, late of Flat G, 57 Wallace Avenue, Worthing, Sussex, died at Worthing, on 2nd July, 1975 (estate about £7,100). The mother of the above-named is requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), 12 Buckingham Gate, London, SW1E 6LJ, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

DAVID HOCKNEY'S RAKES PROGRESS. See For Sale columns.

ARRIVING MANCHESTER AIRPORT ? Need a Car ? See Motors, for Hire.

REDECORATING OR ALTERATIONS? See Business to Business.

14 CARAT SAPPHIRE in ring. See Personal Sales & Wants.

ANOREXIA, compulsive fasting/stuffing, phobic states. 748 3357.

NTHN. ITALY, EFL posts, October. See Pub. and Ed. Appts.

DIAL-A-POEM today.—See Services.

WIMBLEDON VILLAGE.—Wanted, 3/4 bed. house/flat. See Prop. Wanted.

FLOATING HOME—Hammersmith. —See London & Suburban Property.

MONKLESS MONASTERY. Must have Mary!—See Non-Secretarial Appts.

CAN YOU SPARE ONE Sunday afternoon a month? Contact needs volunteer drivers to take out lonely old people. 01-240 0630.

SUPERB SILVER Double decker bus with nose. See Motor Cars.

SCOTLAND HIGHLANDS. Staff required for exclusive private country house hotel. Please see General Vacancies.

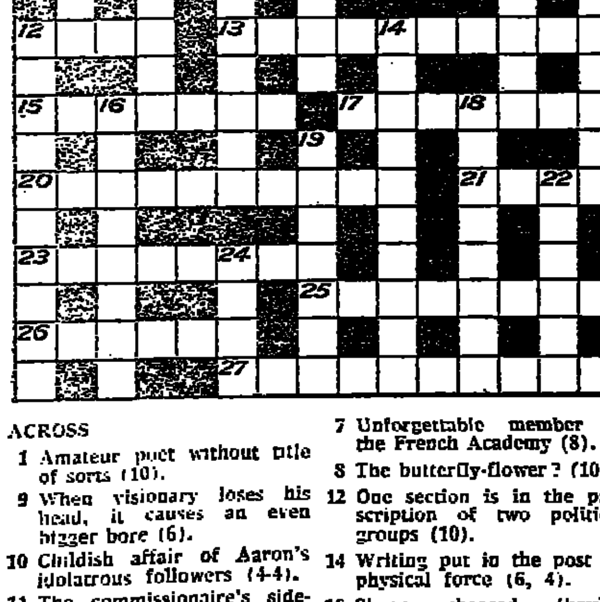
COLLECTOR'S item, 1948 Rover P3. See Motor Cars today.

LAKESIDE SETTING with cherry trees and vineyards. See Holidays and Villas.

PART TIME SECRETARY, flexi hours. See Secretarial Appts.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED to join an excavation to be held in March, 1976, at a Bronze Age Cemetery in the Orkney Islands. Please apply to Mella Hodges, Director of Excavations, Berry Hill, St. Margaret Hope, South Ronaldsay, Orkney.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,218



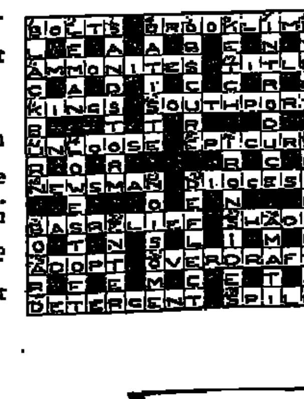
ACROSS

1 Amateur poet without title of sorts (10).
9 When visionary loses his head, it causes an even bigger bore (6).
10 Childish affair of Aaron's idolatrous followers (4-4).
11 The commissionaire's side-piece (8).
12 Stand in the way, say, of the combine (4).
13 Decorative, of late Norman construction (10).
15 Following the calling (7).
17 "Moist"—clue to this flower's other name (7).
20 Money sent has a neat metric conversion (10).
21 Blooming hopeful (4).
23 Cruel and senseless without expression of doubt (8).
25 Canons brought to judgment (8).
26 Location of Kipling's foot-sloggers (6).
27 You, Stephen, somehow got out of line (10).

DOWN

2 Girl identified with victim of fratricide (6).
3 Hairy tangles, to which little people hold the key? (3-5).
4 Briton most changed when in the brass (10).
5 Requiring massage, say? (7).
6 Consequently the work unit gets nothing (4).
7 Unforgettable member of the French Academy (8).
8 The butterfly-flower? (10).
12 One section is in the proscription of two political groups (10).
14 Writing put in the post by physical force (6, 4).
16 Sheep sheared (having caused havoc at Jericho) (4-4).
18 At home he'd get no change with a rupee (8).
19 Pan with which to break out of an 18 community (4-3).
22 Lassie's brilliant superior (6).
24 A form of fodder served up by nurse (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 14,217



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